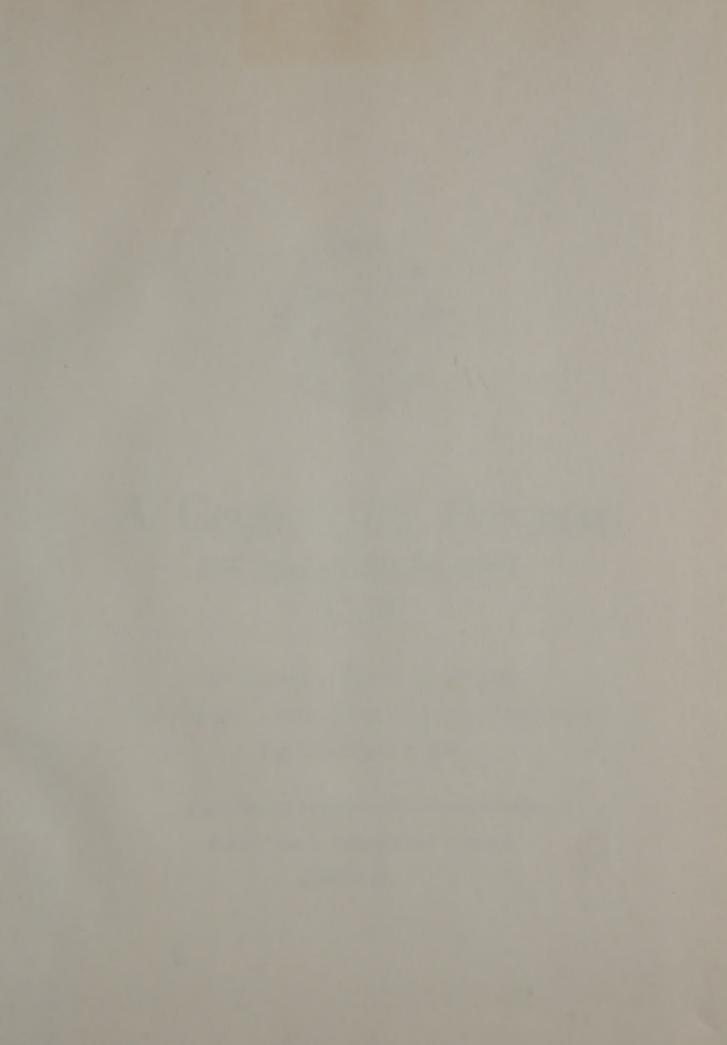


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> REYNOLDS HISTORICAL GENEALOGY COLLECTION











### A Century Of Progress

FOR WILLIAMSBURG, IOWA

1854-1957 44

An Account in Pictures and Words

Covering the Events of the Centennial Celebration

Aug. 26 to Sept. 1, 1957,



## A Century Of Progress

FOR WILLIAMSBURG, IOWA
1854-1957 49

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## A Century Of Progress

FOR WILLIAMSBURG, IOWA 1854-1957

An Account in Pictures and Words

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# A Century Of Progress FOR WILLIAMSBURG, 10WA 1854-1957

An Account in Pictures and Words

Covering the Events of the Centennial Celebration

Aug. 26 to Sept. 1, 1957,

# Williamsburg CENTENNIAL

Williamsburg Iowa

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1957

# Williamsburg

Tomismoilli VI



July July 28 1 761

#### DEDICATION

To those whose efforts
contributed to the success of
Williamsburg's Centennial Celebration,
and to those citizens of past,
present and future who
cherish the traditions
of the "home town"
this book is
respectfully
dedicated.



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#### CENTENNIAL COMMITTEES

1. BEARD JUDGING COMMITTEE: To judge beards.

Winnie Newcomb-chairman, Alice Andrews, Kathleen Driscoll.

2. PUBLICITY COMMITTEE: To prepare weekly news releases to Journal-Tribune and to other area newspapers as they see fit, such as Marengo, Victor, North English, Oxford, Iowa City, Cedar Rapids. Also Radio and TV. Contact Jack Ross from North English for publicity on Town Talk Show. To have Banner across highway with a slogan for Williamsburg and Centennial. Theme of this could be some of the following: Low taxes, clean town, new school, etc. Make up handbills to be distributed by Caravan Committee.

Romona Jones-Chairman, Mrs. H. Q. Cook, Tillie Fetzer, Ted Ressler, Mrs. Damon Caldwell.

3. STREET AND WINDOW DECORATIONS: To locate items for display and let merchants pick up displays they want. It will be the responsibility of each merchant to pick these up, arrange them in their own window, and see that they are returned to their rightful owners. Contact all businesses and urge them to participate in this part of the Centennial. Alice Andrews-Chairman, Wm. Sears-Co-chairman, Herb Fry, Mrs. Clarence Haack, Mrs. Anton Koester, Mrs. Rueben Steffen, Mrs. Truman Boland, Mrs. Clair Sauter, Joe Shannahan, and Jack

Yearian. 4. SISTERS OF THE SWISH: To establish rules for types of clothing and when it is to be worn, divide into different age groups, get buttons, determine different classes such as age groups and different eras; such as Roaring 20's, the Gay Nineties, etc. Get prizes for winners of each

Mrs. Roland Holden-chairman, Pauline Mahan, Mrs. Art Dermody jr., Mrs. John D. Jones, Mrs. August Maas, Mrs. Harvey Burgy, Mrs James A. Driscoll, Mrs. Gilbert Von Ahsen, Mrs. Raymond Sinn, Mrs. Alfred Klever, Mrs. Fred White, Mrs. Geo. Stahl.

5. PARADE COMMITTEE: To secure Bands, Floats, and anything of interest in parades. To have charge of all Parade plans, supervise at parade and give prizes. Wm. Newcomb-chairman, G. C. Chandler, Virgil Roemerman, Roland Holden, Stan Watts,

John D. Jones, Lloyd Fetzer, M. K. Houseman, Allan Bergstrom, Jim Butler, H. Q. Cook, J. J.

McGillicuddy, Art Iburg, Walt Van Steenhuyse, and Leslie Oliver.

6. BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH AND KANGARGO COURT: To set up a jail. All businessmen to either have beards or shaving permits. To hold Kangaroo Court. Invite all people in trade area to grow beards but do not make it mandatory. Joe Evans-chairman, Herb Maas-Co-chairman, Karl Winborn, Frank Holz, Edgar Uhlmann,

Bill Mabie, Jack Snoddy, Larry Elwood, Ben Bean, Bob Jones.

- 7. NOVELTY AND BUTTON COMMITTEE: To select buttons, set fees, and distribute them. John Engel-chairman, L. A. Winborn, Bob Moll, Jim Rourke, L. W. Vanderlinden.
- 8. CONCESSIONS COMMITTEE: Concessions—Local Eat and Drink stands @ .15¢ per sq. ft. \$25.00 Minimum Fee. Out of town Eat or Drink stands @ .30¢ per sq. ft.—\$50.00 minimum fee. Give neighboring towns first choice over other towns. Larry Roehrkasse-chairman, Chas. Fetzer, Werner Uhlmann, Leo Langley, Lew Yoder.
- 9. PROGRAM COMMITTEE changed to CENTENNIAL BOOK COMMITTEE: To gather material for a Souvenir Centennial Book and publish it.

Mrs. Leslie Oliver-chairman, Shirley Drennan, Ted Ressler, Roger Anderson, Harold Martin, Mary Welsh, Hilda Driscoll, Howard Still, Barbara Fry, Mrs. M. K. Houseman, Bob Claypool, Peg Riggenbach.

10. DISTRIBUTIVE AND CARAVAN COMMITTEE:

Bob Rehmke-chairman, Lew Yoder, Lloyd Fetzer, Gaston Phillips, Dwight Gahring, Clarence Halverson, Truman Romberg, Jim Lillis, Dale Mayberry, Vincent Driscoll, Cecil Shellady jr., Bob Beilstein, Oren Schwarting, Nolan Oakes, Ora Enfield.

- 11. LIGHT AND POWER COMMITTEE: To make necessary arrangements to get power to concessions stands, etc. This committee to select any additional help they need. Leland Stake-chairman, Dale Mayberry, Ed Armstead.
- 12. POLICE AND PARKING:

class.

Dwight Gahring-chairman, Dean Smith, Roy Shellady, V.F.W. will police Centennial with help from any other organization that wants to.

- 13. Ted Ressler to arrange the program and select the Master of Ceremonies and to direct the pageant.
- . 14. EXECUTIVE BOARD of Community Club to serve as Cleanup Committee.

#### THE HAS ON A B B F B F C AS D F C AS SAS

UDGING COMMTME: To judge beards.

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Wm. Newcomb-charman, G. C. Chordler, Virgil Rosmerman. B. Arr Darg, Walt Ven Stombayse, and Leslie Oriver.

ofther have beards or shaving permits. To hold Rong, no "eart In word people in trach are:

#### A "First Family" Descendant who remained "on the scene".



O. E. Jones, grandson of Richard Williams (founder of Williamsburg) inspects a pen and pencil set, a gift from the Lions Club in honor of his fifty years of service in the Farmers Trust and Savings Bank. "Oz" also has better than fifty a year record as treasurer of the Williamsburg School.

#### A RESUME OF A CENTURY OF PROGRESS FOR WILLIAMSBURG, IOWA

Williamsburg, rated one of the leading towns of its size in the Midwest, owes its favorable position to a number of geographical and historical factors that have contributed to its growth and maintained its respect within the community it serves. Situated on the west bank of Old Man's Creek and centrally located in Iowa County, it lies in the heart of a prosperous agricultural area. Primarily, Williamsburg has both in the past and present been chiefly classed as an agricultural trading center as well as a good place in which to live.

Originally the land that now contains Williamsburg was near the site of a Sac and Fox Indian village. In 1843 the Indians were removed to points further west, and the way was opened to settlement by the white people. In 1844 a group of Welsh pioneers came and settled just east of the present town, The following year, Irish settlers arrived southeast of them. No town was established at that time. The settlers did their trading with towns further east, chiefly Iowa City and Muscatine.

The need for a town to serve the trading area and the hope of attracting an east and west railroad, no doubt, prompted Richard Williams to plat on his land the original Town of Williamsburg in 1854. In 1856 he added the Williams Addition which has since developed into the business district. The hoped-for railroad missed Williamsburg, going through the northern part of the

county instead. It reached Marengo in 1860; thus giving that county seat town a further growth impetus. The dependence of the Williamsburg trading area thus shifted from Iowa City to Marengo. Without rail transportation, Williamsburg was doomed to the status of a small "inland village" until 1884. Then the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway established a line between Cedar Rapids and Ottumwa. Williamsburg's good fortune to be included on the railroad resulted in its rapid growth from a population of 130 in 1880 to better than a thousand by 1900.

Culturally, Williamsburg has been a "melting pot" for three principal Old World nationalities, the original Welsh settlers, the Irish who came during the "boom" period following the coming of the railroad, and the Germans who since 1900 have spread out from their original settlement around Homestead. Some Scotch and Scotch-Irish also were among the early settlers along with a number of "Yankees" from the eastern states. The march of time has brought about a blending of these nationality groups in the Williamsburg area. Community living, the work of the school, united effort to ward off the common enemy in two world wars and inter-marriage have fast erased nationality differences and made all into loyal American citizens.

The religious life of the Williamsburg residents is somewhat closely related to nationalities. The Welsh were originally Congregationalists or Calvinistic Methodists, although some were Presbyterian along with the Scotch and Scotch-Irish. After the boom period the Methodists started St. Paul's M. E. Church. The Irish moving in from the Holbrook parish established St. Mary's Catholic Church. Then after the turn of the century, St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, was founded to minister to the spiritual needs of the Germans. The Welsh Calvinistic Methodists gave up their efforts to continue as a separate organization, and in the early "twenties" they were assimilated into the Presbyterian Church. On January 14, 1957, a disastrous fire destroyed the Presbyterian church building. Realizing that one building was ample to serve both their congregations and being enough alike in doctrine to make a merger possible, the Congregationalists and Presbyterians joined to form one united organization to be affiliated with the Presbyterian denomination but in the Congregational building as their church home. Thus we have it today that in Williamsburg there are four fine church buildings. "The Church of Your Choice" can well be one of the four.

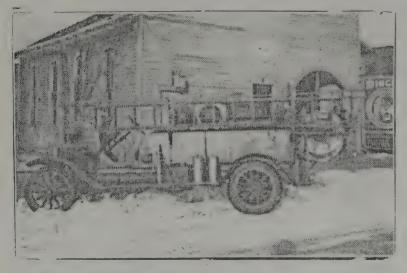
Throughout its entire history Williamsburg has provided the best of educational opportunity to meet the needs of the times. Originally a part of the school township of Troy, the Williamsburg school became an independent district when the railroad assured its future growth. A two-room building served the educational need until the boom period when it was necessary to replace it with a larger building which was completed in 1887. For a time this housed both grade and high

A "First Family" Bescendant

#### A RESUME OF

the product of the control of the co

#### Modern Equipment—In The "Twenties"



Williamsburg has always shown an interest in the welfare of its citizens. The truck shown here carried tanks of chemicals that would form carbon dioxide when the containers were inverted. Directed against the fire, this would smother the flames by keeping away the oxygen from the air.

mutual needs of Williamsburg use of carbide gas. Electric lighting re-

placed this as soon as it became practical. A water system and sewers came early. Then there was paving for the streets, first brick on a few streets, and later a system of concrete paving that brought most of the town out of the mud and dust, adding much to the neat appearance of the town. You will find beautiful homes in all parts of the town with no section that could be labeled a slum area. Williamsburg has two fine parks and a modern city hall which houses a library, a room for public meetings, and modern fire equipment for use by a civic-minded volunteer fire department.

Williamsburg provides the location and atmosphere for good community living. A railroad and good highways make it accessible to the influences of the world around it, yet there is that freedom from the inconvenience of traffic congestion so much a problem in larger cities, many fine homes representing all periods from past to present prove that people find Williamsburg a fine place in which to work and live.

school pupils. Then came the separate high school building in 1908 and 1909. In 1936 the present grade school building was built. It included a gymnasium and shop room for use by the high school. In recent years the trend for closing the one room rural schools and the organization of larger districts made it inevitable that another building program would be necessary. Through the necessary election procedures the district was enlarged to permit the financing of an addition to the grade school and the construction of an entirely new junior and senior high school building at the west edge of town. These units give adequate educational facilities to all. In addition to the two public school units, there is a fine modern parochial grade school maintained by St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Since the days of the windmill in the center of the square and the water-

ing trough at the corner, the town government administrations have been conscious of citizens.. Incorporation took place in 1885 following the coming of the railroad. At about the turn of the century there was a lighting system making

#### "Christening" The Dial System



Mayor Gus O'Donnell places the first phone call after the changeover from the manually operated system to the dial system May, 1957.

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#### WILLIAMSBURG -- HOW OLD?

In 1954 North English observed its centennial. This posed the questions to the people of Williamsburg, "When is our centennial?" and "Will we observe our centennial by wearing old style clothes and growing beards?" Early in 1956 the problem was put to the Williamsburg Community Club: "Here we are 100 years old. Shall we celebrate, and when?" Some were for having it that same summer. The majority present decided to postpone it until 1957 partly to have more time to get ready, also to time it with the completion of the new Community High School. To those who dissented, it didn't seem quite right to observe a centennial a hundred one years after the town's founding. Then accentuating this disparity in dates came the discovery that the town was actually founded in 1854 instead of in 1856. Thus Williamsburg's centennial observance came 103 years after Richard Williams platted and named the town.

The erroneous belief that Williamsburg was founded in 1856 stems from an unintentional error on the part of an unknown historian who wrote in a HISTORY OF IOWA COUNTY (1881) the following description: "This little village, situated on the west bank of Old Man's Creek, is also called Stellapolis. The post office is known by the latter name. It was laid out by Richard Williams May 20, 1856—and was named 'Williamsburg' in honor of its founder." This statement has since been copied many times. The May Flower Edition of the Williamsburg Journal Tribune of 1903 says, "Williamsburg was founded in 1856 by Richard Williams." James C. Dinwiddie wrote in his HISTORY OF IOWA COUNTY AND IT'S PEOPLE (1915): "This thriving city of 1170 people located on the west bank of Old Man's Creek in Troy Township was founded by Richard Williams and laid out by him on May 20, 1856." Other editions of the Journal-Tribune repeat the same statement.

After three quarters of a century from the probable first recorded history on the town of Williamsburg, a question was raised as to whether the 1856 date was correct. The compiler of this book, Theo. C. Ressler, overhearing Arthur Iburg comment that his abstract showed 1854 as the founding date, was prompted to investigate his own and several other abstracts of property in the "Original Town", that area included in a rectangle running three and a half blocks north and two blocks east of and including the Catholic Church. The answer to the question "How old is Williamsburg?" is there plain as day. We quote from Item 4 entitled "Richard Williams to the Public. Dedication of Plat Recorded in Land Deed Record 3 on Page 411 Recorded in conjunction with the plat hereto attached and marked No. 1 is the following: -1 hereby certify that I have this day surveyed and laid out for Richard Williams the Town of Williamsburg, situated in the SW ¼ of Sec. 10 in Township 79, North of Range 10 West in Iowa County, Iowa. The site of the lots and blocks and width of the streets are correctly described on the diagram, April 1st, 1854. Signed C. II. Stoddard, Surveyor." Then there is the statement of the judge: "State of Iowa, Iowa County ss. Before me, Williams II. Wallace, County Judge in and for said county personally appeared Richard Williams and acknowledged that the disposition of the land as shown by the within map or Town Plat is with his free consent and in accordance with his desire. Witness my hand and the seal of said county at Marengo, this 4th day of July A. D. 1854. (Seal) Signed Wm. H. Wallace, County Judge, State of Iowa, Iowa County."

If 1854 is the date of the first plat, why did the historian of 1881 arrive at the 1856 date? Here is the supposition of your present day historian: The author of the 1881 history went to the court house and got out the book of the Town Lot Deed Record and found the information concerning the Williams Addition. He evidently didn't look at the Land Deed Record 4 which contains the record of the platting of the original town of Williamsburg. Consequently the "tail became the dog"—so to speak, and the 1856 date got into the first history book. Later historians copied the first historian and neglected to look at the original sources. So for seventy-five years the good people of Williamsburg have been told their town was founded in 1856. Let's set ourselves right—Williamsburg was founded in 1854. Williams First Addition came two years later; other additions followed with the growth of the town.

#### WILLIAMSBURG-HOW OLD?

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#### One of The Earliest Pictures of Williamsburg (1890)



In this view, the cameraman stood at the south side of the square and faced northeast across the park. The buildings at the extreme right still remain. The wind mill has been replaced by a drinking fountain, and of course, the trees have made quite a growth since 1890.

#### The Greeters



The title and legend for the picture are taken verbatim from Harley Ransom's book, "Pioneer Recollections". "Hugh Henderson, was the popular clerk at the Fletcher Drug Store. When he and Miss Thompson returned from their honeymoon, they were met at the station by the band to welcome them to the city. The greeters were left to right: Will Williams, Charles J. Lee, D. Milton Jones, Rollo Wilson, Harry Carmichael, Ellis Lloyd, Elisha Schooley, Walter Evans, Joe Yates, Aubrey Jones, Leo Kinney. In the background hauling the luggage were William Spellman and J. G. Lortz with his famous spotted mule



park. The hardings at the extreme right said remain. The ward mid has been regioned by a print ag



of hoteymoon, they as to met at the station by the band to view one through
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or the larger were William Southman and I & Large with his trunces southed with

#### CENTENNIAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(As Originally Scheduled)

#### MONDAY, AUGUST 26

- 1:30 p. m. Band concert at new high school building. Program with talks by WHS graduates 75 years or older.
- 2:00-3:30 p. m. Series of guided tours of new building conducted by senior students.
- 7:30 p. m. Judging of beards of the "Brothers of the Brush."

Judging of the centennial dress by "Sisters of the Swish".

Selecting couple in finest Centennial garb.

Selecting family with best centennial dress.

#### **TUESDAY, AUGUST 27**

- 10:30 a.m. Teenage Car Road-e-o, open to all teen-age drivers, boys and girls in a series of tests.
- 2:00 p. m. Circus and television acts on stage at ball park.
- 7:30 p. m. Crowning of Miss Williamsburg Centennial.
- 8:00 p. m. Centennial pageant, depicting 100 years of Williamsburg history. Scenes will be shown on a series of stages with special music presented by chorus of 50 voices.

#### **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28**

10:00 a.m. Centennial parade including over 150 floats, led by Gov. Herschel Loveless, grand marshal.

Short address by Gov. Loveless at bandstand after parade.

- 2:00 p. m. Circus and television acts on stage at ball park.
- 8:00 p. m. Centennial talent show: songs, dances, musical acts, etc.

#### (Schedule as Changed Because of Rain)

- Monday, Aug. 26: A beautiful day. Everything proceeded as scheduled.
- Tuesday, Aug. 27: It rained. The day's events were postponed, presumably until the next day. Those parade units from out-of-town that could not return later plus a few ambitious local units paraded in the rain. The local churches served their planned-for lunches for those who remained in town. Between showers the Royal United Shows continued to operate their acts and carnival.
- Wednesday, Aug. 28: More and heavier rainfall. The committees met in emergency session and decided to postpone all remaining events until later in the week.
- Saturday, Aug. 31: The parade was held in the afternoon; the pageant was held in the evening. Both were well attended.
- Sunday, Sept. 1: In the evening the Home Talent Show provided a fitting close to what turned out to be an entire week of Centennial activity.

#### CENTERHIAL CALIIINAR OF SYEHIS

(As Originally Schoduled)

2:00-2:30 p. m. Series of guided tours of new building conducted by scalar atalents.

:30 p. m. Judging of beards of the "Brothers of the Brack."

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#### TUESDAY, ANDESUT

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8:00 p. m. Centeneial pageant, deputing 100 years or williamsonry usefully seeded well a shown on a series of stages with special music presented by choras of 50 yours.

#### WEDNESDAY, ADREST 20

to:00 a.m. Centennias parade including over 150 floats, led by Gov. it nachel novelva, great

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of sales shows congs, dances, a casa si arts, etc.

#### (Schedule as Changed Barama of Rain)

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# CENTENNIAL PAGEANT "MILESTONES IN A CENTURY OF PROGRESS"

A historical pageant in which, by means of music, pantomine, and the spoken word, the people of the community attempt to recreate the highlights of the past, effect an appreciation of the present, and offer a challenge for the future of their town, Williamsburg, Iowa U.S.A.

#### PROGRAM

#### INTRODUCTORY:

You will meet a part of the cast which starts off the show, including the master of ceremonies, the chief narrator, the organ accompanist, the author of the pageant and musical director, and the fifty voices of the "Old Village Choir".

EPISODE I.—THE VANISHING AMERICAN RETURNS

We are reminded of the fact that the Indians also loved the fair land which we now inhabit. We become acquainted with the circumstances that caused their removal, and learn how they returned later to their former haunts.

EPISODE II.—THE PIONEERS

We learn of the coming of the first Welsh pioneers (the Evanses and Pughs) who began the settlement of Troy Township, the hardships they endured, and the respect they earned through their honest endeavors to wrest a living from the soil.

EPISODE III.—WANTED, GOOD NEIGHBORS

We are introduced to an Irish family (the Hansons) which came early and stayed long in our land. They like all the rest found the need for and the opportunity to be "good neighbors".

EPISODE IV.—WILLIAMSBURG IS BORN - AND NAMED

We look on a scene which marked the first step in the realization of the dream of Richard Williams for a town to bear his name.

EPISODE V.—A BATTLE OF NAMES - AND A BALLAD OF THE SAME

Shall our town be called Posetoenonnock? That name "went west" with the Indians. Which of three white man's names shall it bear—Williamsburg, Stellapolis or Chester? In fancy, the shades of Iowa county ghost towns decide the issue while the Father & Son Quartet sing about the whole controversy.

EPISODE VI.—THE IRON HORSE SETS OFF A BOOM

We learn how the railroad came in 1884, thus permitting Williamsburg to realize its potentiality for future greatness. We also learn of a peaceful use for Civil War artillery.

EPISODE VII.—WILLIAMSBURG ENTERTAINS ITSELF — AND OTHERS

If you think our show has been too much on the serious side so far, prepare for a change of mood and a laugh.

EPISODE VIII.—WILLIAMSBURG GOES TO CHURCH

Williamsburg is a town of beautiful churches and its citizens are churchgoers. You'll want to join them in the Easter parade which will take you to the "church of your choice".

EPISODE IX.—WILLIAMSBURG IN WAR TIME

In general, in this episode, we honor the soldiers of all the major conflicts of the last century. In particular we follow the experience of one soldier through World War I, at the same time showing the part played back home by members of his family who "Keep the Home Fires Burning".

EPISODE X.—WILLIAMSBURG GOES TO SCHOOL

One of our local artists, Mrs. Dorothy Landa, has painted pictures of the exteriors of Williamsburg's school buildings, past and present. With the help of some of our most beloved citizens (the children) we show you what goes on inside.

#### PERSONNEL

Space does not permit the naming of the literally hundreds of people who were either included in the cast or who have in some way helped to make this production possible. However, here are a few you should know:

Author of the pageant and choir director: Theo. C. Ressler Master of ceremonies and executive director: Dale Pierce.

Organ accompanist: Irene Wetjen. (Continued on Next Page)

# CENTENNIAL FAGESTS

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#### PROGRAM

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Shall our lawn be called Posebechemonock! That may be "sent west" with the ballons. When but three white one's away shall it bear - Cilliansbury swillanelis or the tester! In family the shades of lower county plast lawns decide the is ac while the Philes & son thartet sing about he whole controversy.

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Showing the part played back home by no adors of his family who "Weep to a lines fatter."

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to, has painted pretures of the exteriors of Will ith the belt of some of our most baroved citizens

Narrators: Harold Martin, Rev. D. Merle Hill, Bob Hanson, Roger Anderson, Mrs. Floyd Williams, Gwennie Dane, Dale Pierce.

Episode Chairmen:

I—M. K. Houseman V—Ramona Jones Oscar Glandorf and II—Richard Pugh VI—Joe Evans Betty Caldwell III—Glenn Hanson VII—Larita Bricker IX—Herbert Wallace IV—Harold Jones VIII—Catherine Sinn, X—Mary Welsh

Specialty dance: Jerilyn Oliver. Soloists and Instrumentalists:

Merwyn Jones, Joe Hanson, Donald Hopp, Shirley McMenomy, Mrs. D. Merle Hill, Margaretta Meyer, Janice Ollinger, Melba O'Donnell Burton Jones, Roger Anderson, Helenka Claypool, Millen Sandersfeld, Evelyn Sandersfeld, Alice Morse, Sandra Cranston, Rhys Jones, Gaston Phillips, John Phillips, Susan Durian, Wilma Witte.

#### **CHORUS MEMBERS**

Roger Anderson, G. Wiley Beveridge, Gwennie Dane, Mildred Davis, Viola Dubishar, Cris Evans, Doris Evans, Mrs. Helen Fetzer, Donald Hopp, Delmar Iburg, Mrs. Harold Iburg, Phyllis Iburg, Alfred James, Ivor James, Burton Jones, Gwendolyn Jones, Merwyn Jones, Mrs. Newton Jones, Catherine Lortz, Mrs. August Maas, Geo. P. Maas, Paula Maas, Barney Madoerin Jr., Mrs. Barney Madoerin Jr., Shirley McMenomy, Mrs. Harvey Meyer, Margaretta Meyer, Bernice Newkirk, Melba O'Donnell, Catherine Parry, Geo. Petershagen, Mrs. Geo. Petershagen, Gaston Phillips, Theo. C. Ressler, (director); Mrs. Louis Schmidt, Dorothy Schwiebert, B. Stuart Slater, Mrs. Clarence Stohlmann, Gilbert Von Ahsen, Orville Von Ahsen, Mrs. Orville Von Ahsen, Mrs. E. W. Wallace, Leona Walter, Pearl Walter, Irma Wardenburg, Leona Wardenburg, Loretta Wardenburg, Lillian Wardenburg, Mrs. Carl G. Werner, Irene Wetjen, (accompanist), Lucy Williams, Alice Winborn, Wilma Witte.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SPECIAL FAVORS:

To the Iowa Electric Light and Power Company, R. B. Ferguson, commercial manager of Marengo division, for paying the expenses for securing the giant spotlight.

Peterson and Frick for log cabin and the making of other stage properties.

Williamsburg Lumber Store for various seating arrangement helps.

And many others not mentioned because of lack of space.

#### THE TALENT SHOW

Originally scheduled for Wednesday evening, Aug. 28, this program was actually performed Sunday evening, Sept. 1, 1957. It was under the direction of Mrs. Gwendolyn Oliver with the assistance of her daughter Jerilyn and her Oliver School of Dancing numbers. Dennis Oliver was master of ceremonies. Following is the program.

Tap Dance, "Managua Nicaragua," Sandra and Alice Boland. Accordion solo, "Five Foot Two," Zelda Heitman. Vocal, "The Big Bass Viol," Don Hopp. Quartet, "When You Wore a Tulip," "In the Evening By the "In the Evening By the Moonlight," Burton and Rhys Jones, Gaston and John Phillips.

Williamsburg's newest band, "The Swingsters."

Tap Dance, "Mexican Hat Dance," Kathy Cranston and Marvin Ollinger.

Vocal solo, "I'll Take You Home Again Kathleen," "Just a Little Street Where Old Friends

Meet," Jack McGillicuddy Sr.

Tap Dance, "Dark Town Strutters Ball," Rhys Jones and John Phillips.

Vocal, "Around the World," Janice Ollinger.

Square dance group on horse-back - Group from Wilton Junction.

Vocal, "Without a Song," Don Hopp.

Those Adorable Bums, "I Ain't Got Nobody," Mrs. Holden, Mrs. Voelkel.

Quartet, "I Want a Girl," "Let Me Call You Sweetheart," Father-Son quartet.

Accordion solo, "Lady of Spain," Zelda Heitman.

Presentation of winning square dancers, accompanied by Centennial dance band composed of Len Morrin, violin; Bob Hughes, banjo; Will Gahring, drums; and Alfred James, piano. Duet, "Kneel at the Cross," Gaston Phillips, Dean Ridenour.

Polka, Sandra and Alice Boland.

Vocal solo, "Dear Hearts and Gentle People," Janice Ollinger.

Presenting Centennial Queen, Sisters of Swish, Centennial Queen and Centennial chairman

Bob Hanson. Finale, all dancing students of Jerilyn Oliver and everyone in show singing "This is My Country," Judy Stake, accompanist.

, and a grace motor term at the form to the cono so a conserved on a containing over the containing or and actions, which imposed a rest Evans, D. rie Evans, Mr. Melen Ferrer, Paniel Hong, Delmar Lourge Mars, Haratel Barry, Paping Sunday evening Sept. 1, 1957. If was under the Jacciton of Mos. Giver only a Diver with the resistance of the dangerider Jeek, a and her (diver School of Diversey numbers, beauty Object was marre-

# Willamsbird

Recent Aerial View OF WILLIAMSBURG IOWA

EXPLANATION OF PICTORIAL SECTION OF THIS BOOK

SIGN GREETS YOU

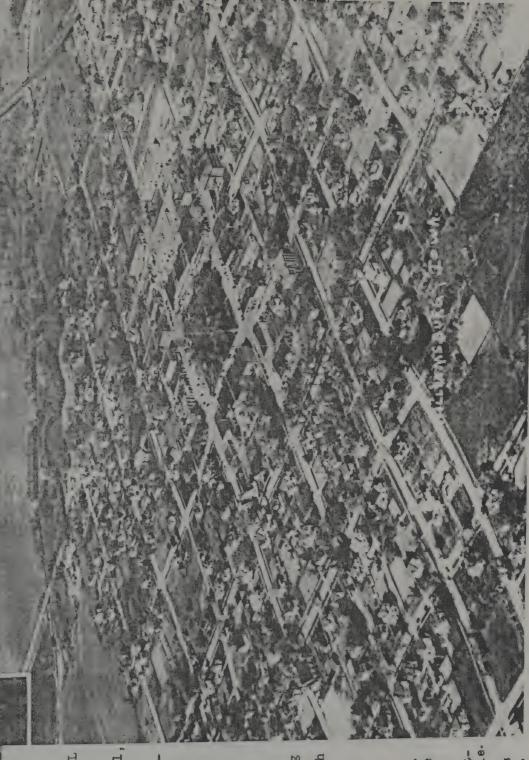
HIGHWAY 149

NORTH OF TOWN.

This center section of has been reproduced by a special process known as coffset printing. " Preparation of copy was made by mounting the pictures on white cardboard and typing the descriptions with an ordinary type-writer. This work was done by Ted Ressler; the free-hand lettering was done by Eill Sears.

Ef some of the printing cppears dimmer than the rest, the blame lies with the typewriter ribbon. If the type is small, a larger card was used for the mounting of the pictures for the sake of economizing on space.

The front and back section of the vornnel-Tribune presses.
The pictures contained there-in are "cuts", mostily those used in the "Milestone 100" series of articles which ran previous to the Centennial itself.







OVER-AII
PLANNERS OF THE
WILLIAMSBURG
CENTENNIAL

BOB HANSON

General Chairman and Co-ordinator of Committees

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE WILLIAMSBURG COMMUNITY CLUB, 1957



Back Row: (Left to Right) Deane Cranston, Gerald Van Steenhuyse, Donald Frick, Larry Coffman Front Row: Joe Lillis, Clair Sauter (president), Keith Dougherty VCSTAH 203

ROBERT STREET TO THE STREET CONTRACT CO

Lillia, Grain bouler (promident), Keita Sougherty

#### BEARDED "WILLIAMSBURGERS" PLAYED AT CEDAR RAPIDS TO PROMOTE THE CENTENNIAL



Back, L. to r.: Eldon Wille, August
Maas, Jim Driscoll, Jim Gittins, James
Garringer, Harvey Meyer, John Engel,
Harold Folkmann, Albert Mews, Arnold
Brockshus, Front: Lawrence Elwood,
Delmar Knock, Elvin Mumm, Curtis Landa,
Roland Holden, Ed Huedepohl.

MAKING CLAP-BOARD SHINGLES



Back, 1. to r.: Ralph Mumm, L. W. Vanderlinden, Frank Papritz, Lloyd Fetzer, Don Frick, Larry Roehrkasse, Burton Jones, Frank Holz, J. D. Lewis Front: Vincent Driscoll, Carl Ahlberg, Frank Everlst, Glenn Hanson, Clair Sauter, Jim Rourke, Joe Lillis, Joe Evans.

A LESSON FROM THE MASTER RAIL-SPLITTER



OLD MUSKET SHOOTING



G. M. Ludwig of Tiffin explained the process and supplied radio publicity concerning it and the coming events.



At far right, Milton Winborn of Johnson Co. Others 1. to r.: Glenn Hanson, Chas. Claypool, L. A. Winborn, Edward Mahan and others



Chas. Hunzelman's steam threshing operation attracted interest both on the farm and at the celebration on the day of the parade.

IATINGENUES FUT STOMORS OF SETTING HASTO TA CHIVATT TERM A. TOW. ILLIAM CHUBANE

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MAKING STAF-BOARD SHINGLES

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Left to Right: Bob Hughes, Gaston Phillips, Leonard Morrin, Alfred James, W. L. Gahring

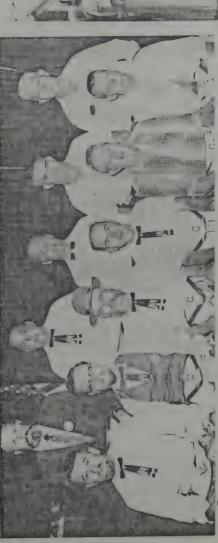


At left: L. A. Winborn; Front row, left to right: Lannie Claypool, Charlie Claypool, Pattie Ann Claypool, L. A. Winborn, Arnold Slaymaker, Sandra and Barbara Garringer, Vernon Garringer, Stephen Hanson(front), Glenn Hanson, Jeffrey, Karl, Dwight and Erik Winborn, Back row, left to right: Mervin Dellamuth, Cordelle Claypool, Ralph Walter, Ann Hanson, Helen Hanson, Murray Evans, Ted Ressler, Lucille Evans, Elmer Iburg, Mary Hannon, Solveig Winborn, Alice Winborn.

8 fr, A. STEELAPOLIS LODGE NO. 391 OFFICERS OF

SUNDAY,

TO CHURCH IN COSTUME, CENTENNIAL



to r.: Joe Evans, Bob Webb, Olin Helgeson, Theodore Davolt, Ben Hulseberg, Front row: Paul Tall John Engel, Rod Reader, Merwyn Jones, Paul Frazier, Warren Evans. Back row,

SOME MORE MASONS OF STELLAPOLIS LODGE IN CENTENNIAL PICTURE



Caroline, Marsha Peterson in foreground Miller, Margaret Slater, Slater, Rev. B. Stuart Slater holding Gerard, Meyer,

THIS PICTURE THESE CHURCH-GOERS POSED

Alice Marsha Peterson, W. Wallace, Jane Morse, Mrs. Irene Carnes, Mrs. Myrtle Peterson, Mrs. B. Stuart Slater, Children: Lucina Morse, Pamela Peterson, Margaret Slater, Paul Slater Adults: left to right: Mrs.



Jones, Paul Frazier, Warren Evans, Ben Hulseberg, Stanerson, Robert Watkins, George Schindler, Walter Leo Bean, Morgan Willlams, Henry Meyer, Bob Webb, Olin Helgeson, Paul Talbot, John Engel, Rod etzer, Theo. C. Ressler, Back row: Leo Bean, Morgan ew Yoder, George Stake, Charles Englebert, Ben Bean Williams, Art Ed Gittins, 4th row: Eugene Tanner, to r.: Joe Evans, Wallace, Tront row. Theodore 2nd row: leader, Petzer,

CO CHESCE IN COUNTRY CAMBURITY OF



Left to right: Karl Winborn, Bill Mabie, Robert Jones, Herb Maas Joe Evans, Frank Holz, Ed Von Hoene, Melvin Witte, Alfred McSwiggin

Defendant, Deane Cranston in custody of cop, Joe Lillis, Roy Shellady, right.

## KANGAROO





Cops Round Up the Offenders



Left to Right: Eardley Thomas, Larry Coffman, Joe Lillis, George Stahl, Roy Shellady, Louie Winborn. Edgar Uhlmann

Attorneys and the Defendant



Left to Right: Alfred McSwiggin, Ed Von Hoene, Melvin Witte, Larry Coffman

NOT A BAPTISM -- JUST THE "CONSEQUENCES" OF A "GUILTY" VERDICT.



Clair Sauter, left, administers "dunking" ceremony to L. A. Winborn, found guilty of carrying firearms without a license.

THE PENALTY- DRAWING A GALLON OF BLOOD



Left to right: James Garringer, Bob Murphy, Dr. James Riggenbach, veterinarian.



L. W. Vanderlinden trims Edgar Uhlmann's "unsanitary" moustache.

CENTENNIAL "BALL AND CHAIN"



Bob Kaloupek is put "on leash" and paroled to his new bride for shaving his whiskers before his wedding.

CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE oursmony to 1. A. . Libra, fourt gwilly of sangity firearms situate a treamen. " went are some at strain in oca

### BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH



GRAND CHAMPION BEARD Leroy Dietrich



COMPETITION IS OVER Back to Normal.



Burton Jones and Gaston Phillips

STRONG COMPETITION AT THE BEARD JUDGING CONTEST



Front row (left to right): Bob Menary, Loren Stahl, Delmar Knock, Glenn Hanson, Jack Driscoll, Albert Mews, Jr.
Back Row: Clair Sauter, Millen Sandersfeld, Ed Hudepohl Marvin Dhont, Leroy Dietrich, Jess Bean

ကြားက မားသော (ကြား အောင်းပါ ကျွပ်ပြောနွေမှ လိုအလ



Tom Lillis, Jr.



Bill Gahring



Elmer Dietrich



John Bullers



Earl O'Neil



Emil Zuber, B. C., D. C. (Before Centennial, and During Centennial)

S O M E R O U G H C H A R A C T E R S O F T O W N A N D C O U N T R Y

WHICH TWIN HAS THE TONI ?



Charles Fetzer



Leo Huff



Harold Stahl



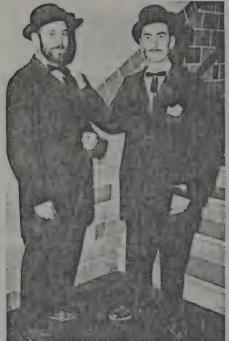
Melvin Livingston



Sterling Stoltzfus

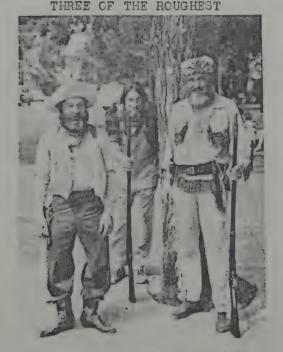


CITY "SLICKERS"



Frank Holz & Jim Naughton





George Stahl, Henry Wetjen and Jess Bean

HOW ABOUT A TUNE, QUARTET?



Bob Elwood, O. E. Jones, Kenneth Oakes, Nolan Oakes



Leroy Dietrich and Harry Rathjen



start, Bert Eaton takes time out for a nap.

Waiting for the parade to

THEY STAGED THE GRINNELL CENTENNIAL "HOLDUP"



Back row, left to right: Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Witte, Henry Wetjen, Eldon Wille, Jess Bean, Mervin Knock Front: Clair Sauter, Don Frick, George & Elmer Stahl



#### DECORATING A RIBBON WINNER

### SISTERS OF THE SWISH

CHAMPION SISTERS OF THE SWISH



Left to right: First place--Mrs. Irene Wetjen Mrs. Leona Klever and Miss Marilyn Fant



Mrs. Carl Durr and Mrs. Gilbert Von Ahsen



MORE RIBBON WINNERS IN COSTUME COMPETITION



Left to right: Mrs. Myrtle Peterson, Mrs. Virgie Stake, Mrs. Lucille Beilstein, Miss Mary Evans, Mrs. Carl Durr, Mrs. Albert Mews, Jr., Mrs. Herbert Newkirk



oft to right: Piret place-Mire. Irage Wetjer I'ra. Leona Wiever and I'lss Menityn Farv



in a first Person of Mars. Mingra 1 and many from

# Mr. and Mrs.



Mr. & Mrs. Leo Langley



Mr. and Mrs. Merwyn Jones



Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Hradek



Mr. & Mrs. Lew Yoder



Mr. & Mrs. Millen Sandersfeld



Mr. & Mrs. John Engel





Mr. & Mrs. L. A. Winborn



Mr. & Mrs. Bill Williams

Mr. & Mrs. Henry Williams, Jr.



Mr. & Mrs. Elvin Mumm

Mr. & Mrs. Albert Mews, Jr.





Mr. & Mrs. L. W. Vanderlinden Mr. & Mrs. Jack McGillicuddy

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Welsh



Mr. & Mrs. H. C. Messer



Mr. & Mrs. George Bean, Sr.



Mr. & Mrs. Bill Gahring



Mr. & Mrs. George Bean, Jr.

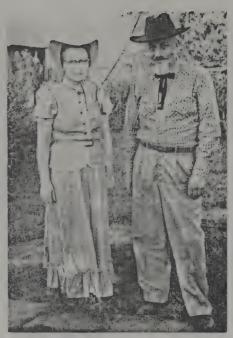


Mr. & Mrs. Dwight Gahring





GENERAL CHAIRMAN AND HIS LADY Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hanson



Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lipsius

## Family Groups



The Clair Sauter Family Mary Pam, Polly, Peggy and Clair



The Bill Mabie Family Warla, Bill and Grace





The John Mattison Family
Left to right: Jeanne, Jimmy, John,
Jerry, and Ruth



The Leroy Dietrich Family Left to right: Juanita, Ethel, Eleanor, Ronald, Leroy, Dolores, and Esther.



The Charles Dietrich Family
Back row: Janice, Shirley, Eunice
Front: Florence, Sherri, Betty, Charles



The Charles Fetzer Family
Helen,
Donnie, Charles, Nancy



The Burton Jones Family Rhys, Ramona, Bronlyn, and Burton



The Nolan Cakes Family Nolan, Laverna, Cary, Kathy



The Joe Shannahan Family Left to right: Julie, Katie, Marcy, Sandy, Joe, Teri





The John Engel Family Nancy, John, David, Adella, Kenny, Mike



Mr. & Mrs. Howard Still & Noreen



THE JOE O'DONNELL FAMILY Joe, Olga, and Joe Allen



The W. S. Watts Family Elizabeth, Larry, Barbara, Kay, Sandy and Star



The Marvin Dhondt Family Rickey, Nedra, Jerry, Marvin



The James Garringer Family Fatty, Anne, Kenny, Mary, and "Doc"

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A TELL OF A THE A SECTION OF THE ACT OF THE



Mrs. Clarence Doehrmann Lois and Gordon





Mrs. Keith Dougherty and Linda

Otis and Eddie Stangland

Joe Allen O'Donnell and Jill Snoddy

NEIGHBORS



Fred Lipsius and granddaughter, Mary Beth Lenaghan



Carl and Melvin Ahlberg



There's not much "centennialish" about Mayor Gus O'Donnell in this picture unless it's his sailor straw hat. But with the girls -- It's different. They were all "Sisters of the Swish," and prize winners at that, as the ribbons will prove. Front row: Gus O'Donnell, Kathryn (Katy), Margaret Josephine (Joey), Mrs. Myrtle O'Donnell. Back row: Patricia (Patsy), Rita, Teresa, and Rose Mary.

HE \*LL DC YOUR FANCY LETTERING FOR YOU.



Bill Bears, Williamsburg's men's clothing merchant, does printing and lettering in his spare time. (He did some of the page titles for this book) Ho was an extremely busy man before the centennial helping local business men to print up material for the floats. He, lewever, found time to work on one of his own as the picture shows. With him is his daughter, Eleanor Bears Chandler.

WILLIAMSBURG IS "ON THE MAP"



Mayor Gus O'Donnell points various points on the map of Williamsburg which hangs in his office in the City Hall.

Notice along the end by a 20 may be as a line of the contract of the contract

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Charles, Cordelle, Lannie & Pattie Ann



Arlan and Arndt Buhrmann



Left to right: James Possehl, Carl Possehl, Wayne Von Ahsen, Duane Madoerin



Left to right: Larry, George, Sr., Richard (above), Leslie, George, Jr.



Mr. & Mrs. Harry Ruthjen & Oren



Cecil & Alfred Gorsh





Mrs. Joe Evans, Jeffrey and Peggy



Bobby and Mary Fat Beilstein

#### RIBBON WINNING FAMILY GROUPS



At left: Joe Evans Family (Jeffrey, Joe, Peggy, Esther, Mary), Center: Nolan Cakes Family (Laverna, Cary, Kathy, Nolan) Right: Burton Jones Family (Ramona, Bronlyn, Rhys, Burton) (1st prize)



### N.E.A. CENTENNIAL

# 1857 1957

HONORED FOR LONG SERVICE IN THE TEACHING PROFESSION



1957 IOWA COUNTY COUNCIL OFFICERS

These teachers appear to be cooking up some plans for the Iowa County observance of the centennial of the N. E. A. (National Education Association). Left to right: Dale Pierce, program chairman; Mary Welsh, secretary-treasurer; Dorothy Ressler, president. Mrs. Ressler later went as a delegate to the national N. E. A. convention at Philadelphia where the Association was founded a hundred years brewious.

AN APPLE FOR THE TEACHER



When the ten teachers who were honored for their many years of service were called to the platform they were presented with an apple by Mike Roemerman. The identifiable people in the picture, left to right, are Edna McAdams, Richard Whalen, Mary Walsh, Date Pierce, Manter of Geremonies, Genevieve Burns, Mike Roemerman, Roey Butler, Gwendolyn Jones, Ferne Halverson.

At the N. E. A. Centennial program in the Williamsburg Grade School Auditorium, April 4, 1957, ten Iowa County teachers were honored for the number of years they had served the profession. There was one for each town system and one for the rural teachers. They are left to right: Mary Walsh, H. C. Messer, Edna McAdams, Marguerite Spratt, Roey Butler, Genevieve Burns, Gwendolyn Jones, Ferne Halverson, Richard Whalen and Charles Vincent.

1921446

SOME IOWA COUNTY TEACHERS IN CENTENNIAL DRESS



Bottom row, 1.to r: Dorotny Ressler, Frances Parker, Alice Suepple (Finnegan), 2nd row: Irene Elick (Olson), Mabel Vanderlinden, Lucile Osborn, 3rd row: Mary Welsh, Charlotte Crees. Dale Pierce at the top.

# CENTENNIAL PARADE

HERE THEY COME !



Heading the parade is "the man on the white horse," Roy Willey. Following him is the Color Guard, then the band.

WILLIAMSBURG COMMUNITY SCHOOL BAND



Paton twirlers ahead, band following



Miss Jerilyn Oliver

ANOTHER VIEW OF THE BAND



At Holbrook's centennial, 1956

HAIL TO THE CHIEF



In the "convertible" driven by Tom McDonough, Jr. are Gov. Herschel Loveless (elevated), State Representative Bill Coffman (left), and Mayor Gus O'Donnell (right).

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Frontiersman, Henry Wetjen and Old Prospector, L. A. Winborn



Peterson & Frick Log Cabin



Gaston Phillips, Burton Jones Families (Father and Son Quartet)



Williamsburg Maytag Store Float







Mr. & Mrs. Robert Beilstein and Michael



Farmers Trust & Savings Bank



Security Savings Bank



Wells-Fargo Stage Coach



Jones Hearse



Iowa County Farm Service











UNCLE SAM Ervin Maas



N. E. A. Centennial Sponsored by Local Teachers



BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL MEN'S FLOAT - CENTENNIAL QUEEN & ATTENDANTS Marilyn Werner (queen), Mary Pat Beilstein, Sylvia Williams



#### CHURCH ORGANIZATION FLOATS



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS (CATHOLIC)



ST. PAUL'S METHODIST



PRESBYTERIAN-CONGREGATIONAL (UNITED)



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN (YORK)



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN (WILLIAMSBURG)



GREETING IOWA'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Gov. Herschel Loveless came by plane to attend Williamsburg's Centennial and landed in a field on the Koester farms east of town. Left to right: John Koester III; the pilot of the plane; Anton Koester; Gus C'Donnell, mayor of Williamsburg; Governor Loveless; Bill Coffman, Iowa County's state representative; Jim Butler, chairman of the parade committee; and John Koester II

THE GCVERNOR "RIDES HIGH"



In the "convertible" driven by Tom McDonough, Jr. are Gov. Herschel Loveless (elevated), State Representative Bill Coffman (left), and Mayor Gus O'Donnell (right).

PLATFORM HOSTS AND GUESTS



Left to right: Bob Hanson, general centennial chairman, Mayor Gus C'Donnell, Gov. Loveless, Representative Bill Coffman, and other mayors of Iowa County towns.

THE GOVERNOR SPEAKS



Williamsburg's centennial crowd had the opportunity of hearing their governor speak from the grandstand in Central Park Square Andrew Comment of the second second of the second s

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gelmean to them. The end of a set of the section of

# The Pageant

STAGE SETTING



The Centennial pageant, MILESTONES
IN A CENTURY OF PROGRESS was staged
just east of the baseball diamond, with
the seating on the diamond itself. The
properties are listed from left to right:
Log Cabin, Choir Risers, two stages with
light colored back-drops, Depot, and
Indian Wigwam (not shown)

CHOIR WAITING FOR THE SHOW TO START



STAGE HANDS



The author, Theo. C. Ressler, and producer, Dale Pierce, find there is more to staging a pageant than mere "high-collared" activity. Here they are nailing up cardboard back-drops for the stage in preparation for the evening show.



Here is Theo. C. Ressler at his desk at Winborns typing out script for the pageant, "Milestones in a Century of Progress."

TWO VIEWS OF THE CENTENNIAL CHOIR IN ACTION





A few of the singers at the extreme right were cut off the picture, the ones in the center may be seen twice. At the left you see Mrs. Irene Wetgen playing her Hammond (rgan. In center Ted Ressler is directing. At the table are Roger Anderson and Rev. D. Herle Hill, who narrated certain portions of the pageant. Harold Partin, chief narrator, does not show in the picture.

elu: 2 an: 1,



Left to right: Katy O'Donnell, Judy Fresbyterian Youth, Henry Lardenburg, driver Stake, Ruth Ann James, Jerilyn Oliver

#### INTERPRETIVE INDIAN DANCING



Portrayed by Explorer Scouts from Cedar Ranids

RAILROAD OPENING CALLS FOR SPEECHES



Seated: Dale Pierce, master of cere-monies, Richard Pugh, Fred White, Joe Evans, standing.

LAYING THE CORNER STONE



Members of Congregational Church reenact historic scene of 1916 when present church building was begun.

#### WELSH BOARD OF TRADE SCENE



Portrayed by one lelshman, Casey Jones, and some non-lelsh folks who have wandered in since Williamsburg's founding

#### CLD TIME SCHOOL SCENE



Mary Welsh wields the "hickory stick"

ST. FAUL'S LUTTERAN SCENE



A group of members led by Cscar Glandorf, at the cabinet organ, sing a German chorale.

"GOING TO CHURCH" IN THE "EASTER PARADE" (This miniature parade was part of the church episode in the pageant.)

#### SOME WENT AFOOT



First "the preacher", Jack Sinn



The James Garringer Family

THEY PUSHED THE PEDALS



Nolan and Laverna Oakes

THEY WENT BY "MULE POWER"



The Robert Beilstein family

AND THESE WENT BY WAY OF THE "HORSELESS CARRIAGE"

MODEL T FORD ROADSTER



Marvin Dhondt and family

1928 CHEVROLET 4 DOOR SEDAN



Dean Smith at the wheel

MODEL A FORD TWO DOOR COACH



Mr. & Mrs Low Yodor

CLINICATES ENTE

## QUEEN CANDIDATES



SYLVIA WILLIAMS, ATTENDANT





MARY PAT BEILSTEIN, ATTENDANT





MARILYN FART



MARILYN STAHL



JANICE CLLINGER







AUDREY LEWIS



SHIRLEY WELLON



MARY EVANS



JANET AHRENS



FERN HUEDEPOIL



CARCLYN HAACK







# Home Talent Show

SHE PLANNED THE TALENT SHOW



When it came to selecting When it came to selecting a capable planner for the home talent show, the logical choice was Lrs. Swennie Cliver. Using some of the acts previously used in her daughter Jerilyn's dance recitals, Mrs. Cliver added other popular local entertainers to bring to the Williamsburg Centennial guests a highly entertaining program which very well proved that "illiamsburg can excel in "show business" as well as in many other fields of endeavor.

FATHER AND SON QUARTET



Here is a group of Williamsburg entertainers that have won honors in television. No wonder they were asked to be in the Centennial Talent Show. Left to right, they are Burton Jones, Rhys Jones, John Phillips, and Gaston Phillips.

REMARKABLE SOLO VOICE



Janice Ollinger has often charmed "illiam sburg audiences with her voice of unusual power and quality, and the Talent Show and Pageant alike called upon her for appropriate selections."

OLD TIME MUSIC STILL FITS THE MODERN AGE



Members of this group (plus Bob Hughes, missing on this picture) were popular promoters of the Centennial activities. They were also featured in the Home Talent Show. Guitarist is Gaston Phillips, caller is John P. Schlesselmann, violinist in Leonard Morrin, drummer is 1911 Caining, and plantet in Alfred James.

CENTENNIAL QUEEN WAS INTRODUCED



Marilyn Werner

WILLIA: SBURG'S



Jack McGillicuddy has long been a favhas long been a fav-orite performer on programs in and around Williamsburg. So quite appropriate ly he sang at the Contennial Talent Show.

"MANY BRAVE HEARTS ARE ASLEEP IN THE DEEP"



So sings Donald Hopp, Williamsburg's youthful "basso profundo" (or "basser" as the old timers of Choral Union experience label a good bass singer). The camera caught him on the word "hearts'."Don gets plenty of opportunities to display his talent for hitting the low notes. He performed both in the pageant and in the Talent pageant and in the Talent Show.



Mrs. Benny Voelkel and her sister-in-law, Mrs. Ruby Holden, a comedy vocal number with highly entertaining action.

contractive to septiment of the contractive of the 

#### CERTAIN ACTS FROM THE OLIVER SCHOOL OF DANCING WERE FEATURED ON THE TALENT SHOW

#### JERILYN OLIVER



Formerly a child movie star of Hollywood, Jerilyn Cliver has returned to her native Williamsburg to complete her elementary and high school education. In her busy schedule she finds time to continue her singing and dancing and, most unusual of all, to share her ability with other young people by conducting the Cliver School of Dancing. The dancing acts used in the Talent Show demonstrate her ability as an instructor.

#### MASTER OF CEREMONIES



Dennis (Denny) Oliver sparked the Home Talent Show the last eve-ning of the Centennial Celebration as M. C., as dancing partner of his sister, Jerilyn, and as dancer in his own right.

#### THE STRUTTERS



John Phillips and Rhys Jones JERILYN OLIVER'S DANCING DOLLS TELL YOU THE TIME.



Left to right: Susan Holden, Judy Gerard, Diane Deissell, Jenn Gerard, Melante Landa, Marcia Deno, Encolleg-- Farol Holden.

#### WINTER WONDERLAND



Kathy Cranston and Narvin Ollinger do several delightful dance numbers. Here they are in winter costume for "Winter Wonderland."



Sandra and Alice Boland bring a bit of Old World atmosphere to dilliamsburg.

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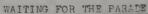
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HIS CAMERA CAUGHT THESE POSES.

#### MISCELLANEOUS POSES

PHOTOGRAPHED BY GEORGE P. MAAS





George P. Maas



Recognizable people left to right are Mrs. Gilbert Von Ahsen Mrs. Millen Sandersfeld, Millen Sandersfeld, Mrs. Harold Iburg, Mrs. Wayne Von Ahsen, Joan Von Ahsen, Lois Doehrmann, Mrs. Clarence Doehrmann, Gordon Doehrmann, Tommy Von Ahsen in front.



Ralph E. Huedepohl



Clarence Doehrmann



LEFT TO RIGHT: Larry, He Loren and Mark Von Ahsen Helen



Truman Boland



John Buser



Elmer Stahl, Harry Rathjen, Ben Bean

CENTERMIAL CHAIR, CENTENNIAL ALBUM, CENTENNIAL BEARD

George Stahl, right, and Lorgan Milliams, left, take turns sitting in the 100 year old chair and looking at the 100 year old album. The chair was originally used by John Henry Heitshusen of Iowa Township. He was the grandfather of Mrs. Geo. F. Maas. He died in 1916 at the age of 93. The family album is an old Maas family heirloom.





Jack Snoddy and David Boland

HEIGH-HO SILVER



Ruth Ann Burgy & Linda Eilliams ride in the parade

ten theor CENTENTIAL STATE OF A CHARLE WELL CENTERANT DEAR



Williamsburg's busy school superintendent
Mr. H. C. Messer



HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' GLEE CLUB Mrs. Phyllis Martin, director, (right front)





Ethel Balton 2nd Grade Teacher



Junior High Principal, Dale Pierce

SOME PRESENT PHASES OF EDUCATION WILLIAMSBURG COMMUNITY SCHOOL

WILLIAMS BURG GOES TO MARENGO FOR A SWIM



Twice during the summer of 1957 the question of the construction of a swimming pool for Williamsburg was brought to a vote. Both times the issue failed to carry the necessary majority. But this didn't stop the Williamsburg kids from swimming. Here a group of them are headed for the Marengo pool. The driver of the school bus was Theodore Davolt (also the grade school custodian). Chaperoning them was Rev. D. Merle Hill. Left to right they are Rev. Hill, Diane Martinson, Phyllis Carney, Pam Sauter, Duane Madoerin, Herbie Iburg, Larry Watts, Doug Furman, Bobbie Moll, Dickie Bullers, Donald Mason, Joey O'Donnell, Marcia Newcomb, unidentified, Theo. Davolt, Jerry Flannagan, Annette Petz, Joan Martinson, Larinda Dubishar, Rosanne Lillis.

LET'S CHEER FOR THE "RAIDERS"



Left to right: Lorelee Chandler Ruth Ann James, Katy O'Donnell, Peggy Chandler, Diane Cranston



Virgil Roemerman, vocational agricul ture instructor (standing). Students left to right: Richard Schaefer, Phillip Jones, Harold Joseph, Howard Huedepohl, Kenneth Witte, Terry Hess



Night football made possible by lighted field



High School Principal Robert Murphy





Band Director, Robert Gown

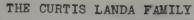




Theo. C. Ressler in Centennial Garb



Linda Dougherty and her dolly





Left to right: Curtis, John, Melanie Dorothy (Dane) Landa, and Moria Landa

THE PRESIDENT PRESENTS THE AWARDS.



Clair Sauter, president of the Williamsburg Community Club presents the winners of the Centennial Queen Competition. Left to right are Clair Sauter; Mary Pat Beilstein, attendant; Marilyn Werner, "Miss Centennial"; and Sylvia Williams, attendant.



The cabin at West End Park



The lake at West End Park



Leo Langley

## WORDS-PICTURES-AND-PEOPLE TELL WILLIAMSBURGS STORY

TO HAVE PICTURES, YOU NEED A PHOTOGRAPHER



The fact that this book contains so many pictures is due in no small measure to the efficient work of williams out of the modern picer, John Bullers. Many of the modern picer, John Bullers, and most of the efficient work of Williamsburg's photographtures were of his taking, and most of the historical pictures are duplicates of priceless prints which he re-photographed. On the walls of his studio he had Herbert Fry paint a mural of the southwest corner of the square so his patrons could have the "old Williamsburg" background for their centennial pictures. This view of the "professional" was taken on a color slide by an "amateur" and then converted by Mr. Bullers to a "black and white" to include in this publication.

THE PICTURE LABORATORY - BULLERS STUDIO



Although many Williamsburg stores had centennial window displays, this one of ed in the Journal-Tribun Bullers Studio is the only one for which under the heading "Milea picture was submitted for publication. stone 100."

IOWA COUNTY LORE TOLD IN RANSOM'S "PIONEER RECOLLECTIONS"

In 1941 Harley Ransom published a collection of pictures and writings in a book called PIONEER RECOLLECTIONS. This proved a valuable source for later investigations concerning Williamsburg history.



Harley Ransom

INTEREST WAS HER HOME TOWN HISTORY



Mary Hakes Jones (Mrs. O. G. Jones) had reason to have an interest in Williamsburg history; her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John Remley, came to Williamsburg when there were only six houses in the area. She grew up knowing the early pioneers and their first generation descendants. Through her conversations with them and a search through written sources including back issues of the Journal-Tribune, she gathered her materials. She left several typewritten accounts of various organizations and prepared a general history for presenting in the form of a speech to the grade children of the Williams-

burg School. It was this that provided the starting point for the investigations that were published in the Journal-Tribune

POET, JOURNALIST, STATESMAN



J. P. Gallagher was one of the first to realize that the fascinating story of Williamsburg would look well in print. Through his "May Flower Edition" (1903) and subsequent articlis of the Journal-Tribune, he sang the praises of williams-burg and set the pattern for the historical aspects of this book. THE CENTENNIAL FIT HIS HOBBIES.

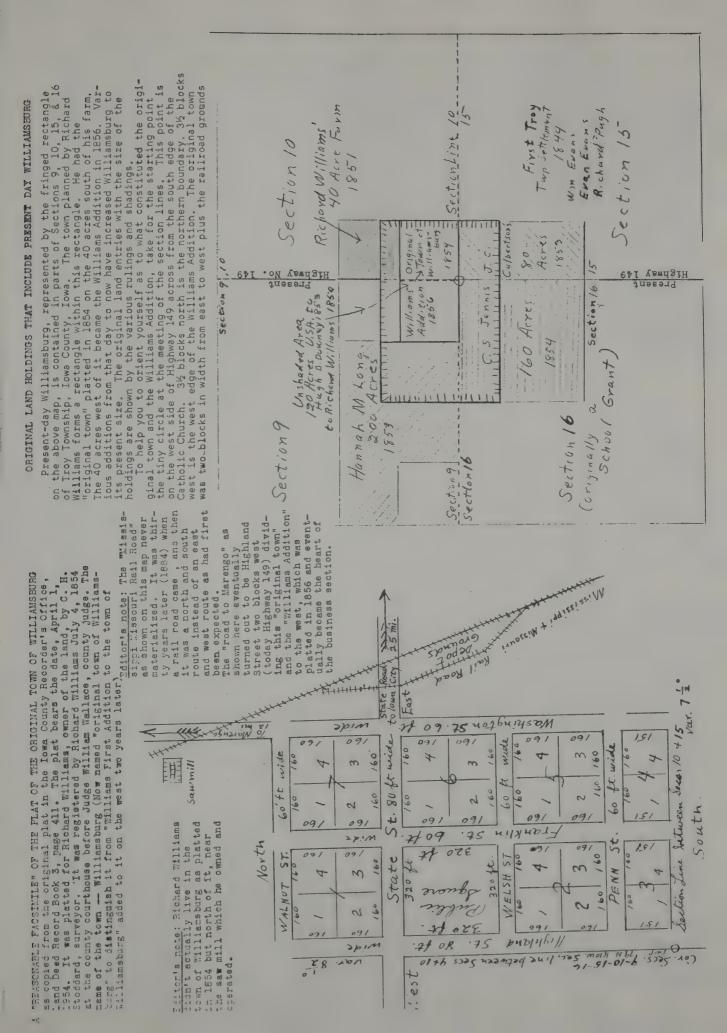


Ted Ressler, shown in "Brothers the Brush" array, has a number of the Brush" array, has a number of hobbies, history, photography, music and writing. The centennial called all these into play. He investigated Williamsburg History, incorporated his findings in a weakly newspaper feature, "Milestone 100" and in the centennial pageant, "Milestones in a Century of Progress. He trained and conducted a community chorus to assist in the staging of the pageant. And finally, his services were enlisted for compiling this centennial souvenir book.



It was June 1, 1957, when G. Wiley Beveridge and his wife, Margaret took over the operation of the Williamsburg Journal-Tribune, succeeding the former owners, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Halbasch. The Beveridges entered heartily into the spirit of the contennial activities; and you can be sure there was plenty of work for them to do in handling the publicity publications. The printing and binding of this centennial book and the details of its publication have been handled by the Beveridges, who are shown here by the folding machine.

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# WILLIAMSBURG AS ENVISIONED BY ITS FOUNDER

ed a saw mill. Certain evitime he settled in the area in a grove where he operat-Did the Welshman, Richard Williams live in the town which he founded? Probably OF WILLIAMSBURG not. He lived north of 1t /ear 1846 or 1847 as the dence would point to the SOME SPECULATION ON FOUNDING

an east-west rail road pass- v of a town near his farm with "original town" of Williamsoriginal holdings from Hugh D. Downey of Iowa City. The ambitions beyond the owner-But Richard Williams had he purchased the 120 acres burg -- with a railroad that west and south of his 1851 doubt saw the possibility ship of 40 acres. He no ing through it. In 1854 same year he platted the didn't exist but was no

it from the U. S. A. in

filliam sburg, the part that today contains the business doubt expected.

By 1856 the prospect that railroad was no doubt gone. Williamsburg would get the The southwest 40 acres was better suited for an "inplatted as the "Williams land town". So he had it Addition" to the town of

1854 by C. H. Stoddard for Richard

The proposed rail road

Williams.

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(Troy Twp.)

Range 10 W Twp. 79 N

platted May 20, 1856. It eventually became

Williams Addition

the business section.

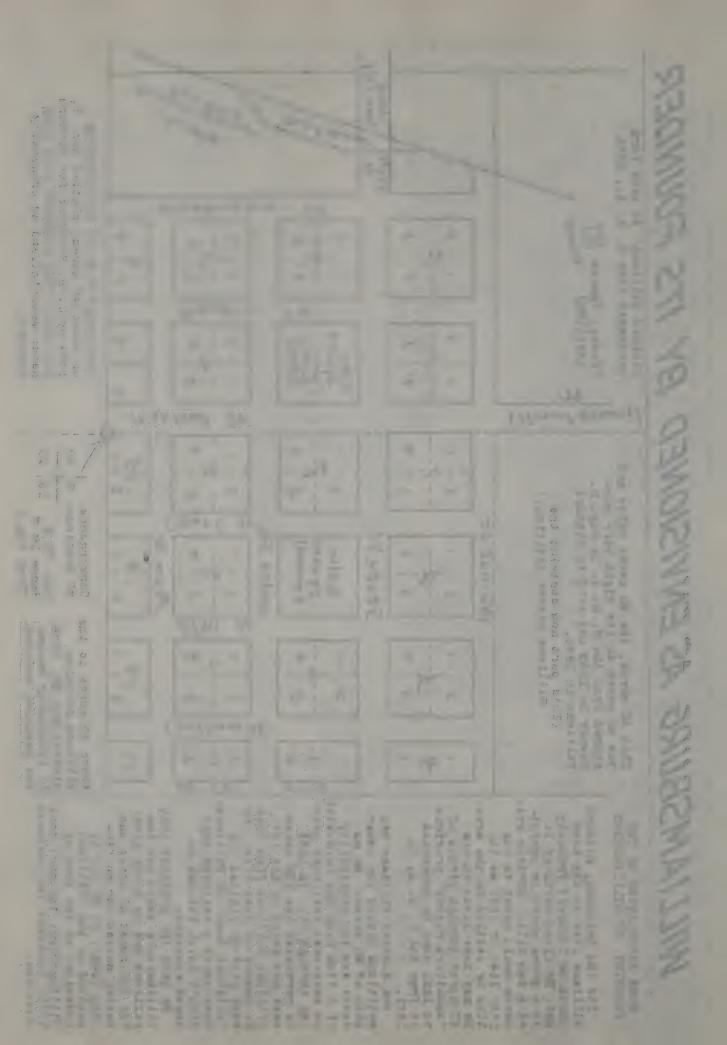
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of Sections

planned,

never materialized as originally

( pro posed ) on above 40 acres, platted Apr. 1 "Original" Town of Williamsburg Richard Williams' 40 acre farm purchased from U. S. A., 1851 Mashing ton Saw Nill (Today, "Hakes Addition) Square (now Grade School) Public High land 75 This 40 acres, the 40 acres below and the 40 acres to 1ts right were purchased from the U. S. A. by Hugh D. Downey in 1853 and sold to Richard Williams Heirs' Addition.) Convergence (This part now contains the Nalnut St. Welsh St. Penn St, Statest (present) Square Public Above 40 acres is the 75 Williams in 1854. Сраснат 5 "squatters rights" previous O acres through virtue of to 1851 when he purchased He may have lived on his



In late fall, 1844, there arrived in what is today Troy Township, Iowa County, three young Welsh couples, Mr. and Mrs. William Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Evan D. Evans, and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Pugh. The Evans men were brothers, and Mrs. Pugh was their sister. The hardships endured and the difficulties overcome by these pioneers was typical of the experiences of all early pioneers of the period. We are fortunate in having a picture of all three of these pioneer women, but the men died comparatively young and we have no pictures of them. We can also show a picture of the near-ruins of one of the cabins they erected that first winter, the one that for years went by the name "Middle House."

MIDDLE HOUSE, LANDMARK FOR OVER A CENTURY



On their arrival in what is now Section 15 of present day Troy Township, the three young Welsh pioneers, William and Evan D. Evans and Richard Pugh hastily erected a log cabin in which the families of all three resided until two more could be built. The one known as Middle House was one of the first if not the first of the three. It was the home of Richard Pugh until his death. Then for a while it was vacant except for its possible use as a place for holding school or church services. Later on it served as a residence for the family of Johm ("Middle-House") Jones.

Jones.

Finally, Middle House was abandoned to fall into the rundown condition shown above. When Louis Iburg purchased the place on which it was located, he cleaned up the remaining boards and logs. Paul Talbot salvaged one piece to save as a souvenir. Middle House stood along the road beside the point where the drive-way to Mr. Iburg's house begins.

MRS. WILLIAM EVANS WITH DESCRIDANTS



This picture furnished by Walter Evans of Cedar Rapids shows Mrs. Sarah Evans (seated in left center foreground) with her grand children and great grand children. Descendants still remaining in Iowa County are Truman Jones, Eardley Thomas and Mrs. Floyd Williams, great grandchildren. Bobbie Williams, David Davies and Mrs. Virginia Davies Grimm are great-great grand children. We will attempt an identification of those in the picture. Back row left to right: Aubrey Jones, Will Evans, Ann Evans Boland, Fred Jones. Seated at left is Nellie Jones. At the right of the bush from left to right are Will Jones, Grace Davis Shearer, and Walter Evans. In front of them are Alice Davis Black and Will Williams. At the left of the Grandmother Mrs. Sarah Evans is Irene Evans Acker. At her right is Ernest Evans. In front of the bush are George Jones, Mae Tuttle Whilock and Miles Jones. Seated and holding the baby (Leighton Thomas) is Edith Jones Thomas. Eeside, her is Irene Thomas Jones. On the ground in the foreground left to right are Lens Jones Brodio, Gertrude Evans and Etta Evans Hodgeon. In the group of three from front to back are Helen Evans Johnston, Everett Jones and Lyle Evans. Then again from center to right are Nell Tuttle, Arnold Tuttle, Arthur Jones, and Marcus Evans.

The picture was taken at about the year 1894. The place was the old Milliam Evans home in Evansville.



Ann Evans Pugh Williams is important in Williams burg history for two reasons. As Mrs. Richard Pugh, she was one of the first white settlers of Troy Township. Then after the death of Mr. Pugh she married Richard Williams who later

Mr. Pugh she married Richard Williams who later founded Williamsburg. We have this picture of her six children supplied to us by her grand-daughter, Mrs. Clara Gittins Jones. Those in the front row with her are those by her first husband Richard Pugh. Those in the back row are her children by Richard Williams.

Bottom row, left to right: Mary Ann Pugh (Mrs. T. E. Gittins), Mrs. Ann Evans Pugh Williams, David Pugh, Richard Pugh (Jr.)

Top row, left to right: Sarah Williams (Mrs. Ed H. Jones), John Williams, Jonnie Williams (Mrs. Tom P. Jones).

Mary Ann Pugh was the mother of Ed Gittins and Clara Gittins Jones. Richard Pugh, Jr. was the father of the late Elmer P gh, consequently grandfather to our present-day Richard Pugh. Sarah Williams was the mother of O. E. Jones and Charlie Jones of the Farmers Trust and Savings Fank and the late Ers. Tom Lewis, who was the mother of Mrs. late Ers. Tom Lewis, who was the mother of Mrs. Jeanette Lewis, wife of Dr. Lewis.



For this picture we are indebted to Judge Harold D. Evans of Iowa City, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Evan D. Evans and son of Will R. Evans who also appears in the picture. Judge Evans says the picture must have been taken prior to 1887, as that was the year of his grandmother's death.

Seated are David E. Evans (a former banker of Williamsburg:, Mrs. Evan D. Evans (Jane), and Mrs. Jennie E. Jones, wife of Dr. Joseph E. Jones, early Williamsburg physician.

Standing are John R. Evans at the left and Will R. Evans at the right. The latter two were Williamsburg merchants. Will R. Evano was also Williamsburg's first mayor.

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# WELSH INFLUENCES IN WILLIAMSBURG



This picture was supplied to us by Mrs. Catherine Sears. was taken at about the turn of the century in the Trojan Opera House. The folks shown were either native Welsh or first generation descendants all dressed in Welsh costume. Tea drinking the Congregational in which it among the Welsh people was not only a personal habit; it was a social custom as well. Left to right, those shown are Ellen Evans Jones, Howell Williams, Jr., Mrs. Ed Evans, Mrs. Howell Williams, Mrs. Grieves, Mrs. Ed W. Jones. E. D. Evans, Mrs. Lewis D. Jones.

On April 1, 1956, the ladies of the First Congregational Church dressed in Welsh costume to serve a St. David's Day banquet. On June 6 they held a "Welsh breckfast." These observances were largely in honor of the centennial of the founding of their church by Welsh pioneers in 1856. Thus for one hundred years the Welsh influence had left its mark in Williamsburg. There had been the speaking of Welsh, Welsh church services, Welsh singing, Gymanfas, and Eisteddfods during this period, an era now considerably changed through the blending of the various other nationalities with the original Welsh. Except for a few people who can still speak Welsh, this language is something we"talk about" instead of "talk."

Welsh was the language of two churches in Williamsburg, Calvinistic Methodist until 1919 when that institution closed its doors for lack of enough members to continue

The Gymanfa or "Big Meeting" was characteristic of Welsh religion. The Williamsburg Congregational Church, originally known as the "Welsh Congregational Church" was a member of a group of four churches that shared a Gymanfa. It took two weeks to complete the circuit, allowing each church to play host to the other three. The meetings at each church lasted three evenings and two days. The remaining time was spent getting from one community to another or in a break for the looking after necessary chores, etc. Because the communities were somewhat distant from each other (25 to 50 miles), arrangements had to be made to provide shelter and food for the visiting families. While resembling a camp meeting or old fashioned revival in many respects, the Gymanfa was more given to strengthening the faith of those who were already members of the churches than to the winning of new converts (who would not have understood the language anyway). There was very eloquent preaching both on the part of the preachers of the member churches but also guest preachers who happened to be available. The singing of Welsh hymns was no doubt the most enjoyable feature of all, for everyone could participate. Singing also helped break the monotony of the long

WELSH COSTUME

sermons, inspired though they were. The prayers were also very eloquent, bringing forth a hearty response of "Amens." The Eisteddfod was a singing and public speaking festival at which the member organizations competed for cash prizes or medals. The

judge bore the title of "adjudicator." Participation in an Eisteddfod meant a trip to the town of one of the host members, usually Des Moines or Albia. For many years the Williamsburg

Choral Union under the leadership of Ellis Lloyd competed in the Eisteddfods, and usually with a fair amount of first prizes. In addition to the Welsh people of the town who were interested in the Choral Union, there were some non-Welsh who belonged.

Although it is still possible to attend Eisteddfods in Wales and a few places in the United States, interest in this sort of thing has declined, and Williamsburg has had no part in them since about 1920.

WE'RE JONESES, IN WELSH COSTUME TOO



Mrs. Janora Jones submitted this picture of her grandchildren in Welsh costume. Judith Ann (left) and Larry David (right) are children of her son, Robert. Kathleen and Rebecca Sue (second and third from left) are children of her son, John D. Jones.



Mrs. Janora Jones

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THESE SCHOOLS HAVE SERVED WILLIAMSBURG YOUTH DURING THE PAST CENTURY.



Completed in 1858, this two-story frame building served until 1887. Until 1886 when Williamsburg became an independent district, the school was part of Troy School Township, designated Sub-District No. 1. This structure faced north at the corner of Court and Welsh Streets. The picture was taken from the southeast corner of the square. The trees at the right are where the Gus O'Donnell Hardware Store now stands.

THIS BUILDING HOUSED THE HIGH SCHOOL FROM 1908 UNTIL 1957.



GRADE AND HIGH SCHOOL 1887-1908 GRADE SCHOOL ONLY, UNTIL 1936



THESE BUILDINGS SERVE AN EXPANDED WILLIAMS BURG COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT.





The present day grade school at the right was the result of two building programs. In 1936 the construction of the two story part at the left was authorized by vote to replace the old grade school shown directly above it. Then in 1957 the one story extension was added to the south of it.

The high school, shown at the left, was completed in 1957. It incorporates all the modern trends in school architecture. Situated at the west edge of Williamsburg, it accommodates are both the junior high and senior high classes.

A re-organization plan enlarging the Williamsburg Independent School District to bring in twelve former separate districts into the new Williamsburg Community School District in 1955 necessitated the building program to give children of the area a better educational opportunity.

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# Early Jamilies

WILLIAM FALKENBERG FAMILY AND OTHERS



Standing, left to right: Minnie Falkenberg (Teggatz), William Falkenberg, Alma Falkenberg (Witte), Mrs. Sus Ristau, Anna Schultz (Wetzel), Mrs. Wilhelmina Falkenberg. Seated: Mrs. Elizabeth Schultz Eckhardt holding son Lyle Eckhardt, George Eckhardt, Mrs. Emilie Ristau Werner. Picture 1901 by Gus Ristau.

THE JOHN J. JONES (DELAWARE) FAMILY



Seated are John J. Jones and his wife, Gwenllyn. Standing are their children, left to right: Sarah Jones Pugh, David J. Jones, John T. Jones, and Ann Jones Anwyl.

THOMAS E. GITTINS FAMILY



Left to right: Gertrude Gittins Albert, T. E. Gittins, Jane Gittins Evans, Clara Gittins Jones, Mrs. Mary Ann Pugh Gittins, Ann Gittins Hull, Ed Gittins, Seated: Roy Gittins

BROTHER, SISTER, AND IN-LAWS



David R. Pugh of Cedar Rapids provided us with a "tin type" of his father and mother, Richard Pugh II and Sarah Jones Pugh (seated). Standing are Thomas E. Gittins and Wary Pugh Gittins, parents of Ed Gittins and Clara Gittins Jones.

SEYMOUR RE-UNION, MAY 23, 1914



Scuted are Mr. and Mrs. James Nicholas. Their children are left to right: Idwal, Daniel, Blaine, Arthur, Kartha Micholas Harbert, Howard, Robert, and Harry.



Left to right, standing: Ralph Snavely, Lou Sheets (Edwards), Maude Sheetz(Harrington), Lottie Seymour, Mrs. Bert Sheetz, Hattie Seymour (Tanner), Will Chase, Lizzie Seymour Chase, Jake Tanner, Harry Seymour holding Helen Edwards, Mrs. Mary Seymour (Chase) holding Virginia Snavely.

Children in front: Kenneth Harrington, Lucile Harrington

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This picture, also taken by W. R. Long, was taken the day construction from the north reached Williamsburg. Note the ties and sections of track on the flat cars for continuing the road on south. The scene is at the north edge of town probably where the track crosses Old Man's Creek.

RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION, 1884 STYLE

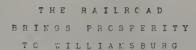


This picture supplied to us by Mrs. Bertha Long Jones bears her father's stamp on the back, "W. R. Long, Landscape Photographer." It was taken somewhere north of town while the Milwaukee Railroad was under construction, back in 1884. As everyone knows, railroads must have a fairly level track. This means cutting down the high places or building up the low. In the past, a favorite way of building up the low places was by means of an elevated wood framework known as a treatle. The construction train and crew are her shown on such a treatle. Many trestles have since been replaced by fill-ins of dirt, as has been the case of the scene of this picture.

DEPOT TO POST OFFICE -- LAST TRIP



This picture was taken in 1950 when mail service by train was discontinued in favor of Star Route delivery. The job of hauling the mail from the depot to the post office was last held by Tal Jones and his son Lewis Jones, shown in the picture. This was their last delivery; it marked the end of an era when the railroad was all-important in keeping Williamsburg in touch with the outside world.



MILWAUKEE ROAD STILL SERVES WILLIAMSBURG



Heavy merchandise such as feed ingredients, lumber and coal still arrive in Milliamsburg by rail; hence it's advantageous to be near a railroad.



Conductor & Motorman pose on occasion of last mail delivery. Note Tal Jones' truck at the right.



This building burned during the winter of 1935-36.



A panoramic view from the foot of helsh Street shows industries that thrived along the railroad. The style of the cars would indicate the time was about 1920. The rounded effect of the picture comes from having a camera rotate alowly on the triped to take in a wider area than what in possible with a stratcht amapahot. Note the coal leading ramp at the right where cars of coal were backed up and dumped in the bins that later released them into the "tender" cars as needed. Williamsburg was a coalling and watering station for the Milwaukee locomotives in the days before blenel locomotives displaced steam locomotives.



Standing, left to right: Charlie Lee, O. G. Jones, unidentified, unidentified, Howell Williams, Jr., Homer Freeze, R. E. Misbach Asa Hall. Seated: Ellis Lloyd, Meredith Lloyd, Harley Ransom, John Williams, David Williams, David James, Blaine Nicholas.



Standing, left to right, Lily Long (Hanaford), un-identified, Mrs. Martin, Lyman Hanaford, Mr. Martin (photographer). Middle row: Dr. Gardner, Mrs. Walter Harrington, Mr. Jenks, Mrs. Gardner, Maude Smith (Nicholas), Mayme Cook (Edwards). Front row: Mr. Snell, Alma Lortz, Billie Pierce, Mrs. Snell, Elman Dark Marches Stanza (Gardner). Mrs. Snell, Elmer Pugh, Maggie Storey (Gardner)



Miss Minta Williams supplied us with this picture which shows some Presbyterian Church members with the old Trojan Opera House as a background. She identifies them as follows: The younger girls in front are Nell Pierce and Carrie Morse The younger girls in Front are Nell Flerce and Carrie Morse (left to right). Others left to right are Harry Ogden, John McFarland, Lottie Poyneer, Leighton Morse (back), George Fletcher, Harry Carmichael, Mrs. Clara Harris, Mrs. Hanna McCleod Hughes, Mary Pierce, Mrs. Annie Stephens, Rose Long Irma Threlkeld, Mrs. Edith Henderson, Annie Smith Yates, Teresa Humphrey, Mrs. Morse, Theo Lyon, Edna Ogden Oliver Raymond Cgden, Mina Ogden Carmichael.



Miss Nan Hall supplied us with this picture and the one the double quartet. She identifies them as follows: Of the double quartet. She identifies them as follows:
Back row (left to right): Eva Jones (Thomas), T. T. Osborn,
Annie Gale (McFann), Nettie Long (Lewis), Cora McDougal,
(Jenkins), R. W. Pugh, Effie Murchison, Mary Perkins (Cook)
2nd row: Sadie Osborn, Allie McDougal (Jenkins), William
Beck, Cassie Evans (Jones), Will McClood. Front row:
Mollie Richards (Roberts), Frank Tomasek, Dora Hall, Hattie
Seymour (Hansom - Tanner) VILLAGE BELLES



Mrs. Nell Cook who supplied us with the was taken by Mrs. Walter Harrington. Front row, left to right: Gertrude Gittins (Alberts), May Egbert. Back row: Nell Pierce (Hart), Nell Jones (Cook), Mae Gittins (Tipton), Ann Gittins (Hull), Mary Felver.

THIS DOUBLE QUARTET WAS A PRESBYTERIAN CHOIR



Top row, left to right: Mayme Jones, Hattie Saymour (Tanner), Alice McDougal (Jenkins), Amelia Jones (Popham).

Bottom row: John Shaul, Will McCleod, Tilford Hall, M. A. Sheetz (the choir leader)

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# Business was good IN WILLIAMSBURG

INTERIOR OF WILL R. EVANS: STORE



This picture was taken in 1904 or 1905. Will R. Evans, son of Troy Township's earliest settlers, Mr. and Mrs. Evan D. Evans, and first mayor of Williamsburg, was one of Williamsburg's early merchants. His store was below the Masonic Hall at the south end of the west side of the square. This brick structure replaced a frame building formerly moved to the south side of the square (now Howard Harrington's garage)

On the left are D. Wilton Jones and Will R. Evans. The large man in the right aisle is L. K. Parkhurst, salesman, and May Mayne is back of the counter.

FOR MELS OF WILLIAMSBURG, READ THE "JOURNAL-TRIBUNE"



Standing at the left is J. P. Gallagher. Seated at the linetype is R. W. Childress. There has been a newspaper in Williamsburg since 1884.

CHRISTMAS DISPLAY FOR THE JONES MEAT MARKET



After Durr Bros. took over the Lytle Building (now Papritz' Maytag Store and Langley's Jewelry Store), they sponsored a "Buster Brown Day." Buster Brown and his dog Tige were present, but because of the fact they were in the shade of the canopy, they do not show too clearly in the picture.

George P. Lass says he recollects this occasion when he was a boy. Every now and then a voice would shout out, "What kind of shoes are you going to buy?" The answer from the "kids" would then ring out, "Buster Brown shoes!" Then the question, "There you going to buy them?" And again the response, "At Durr Bros."

### WILLIAMSBURG CREAMERY



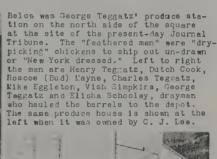


Nell Jones Cook provided us with this picture. First her father, then her brother operated the Jones Meat Market on the South Side of the square. Refrigeration was supplied by natural ice.

HARRIS ELEVATOR
Served Williamsburg Community
more than a half century

Elmer Harris' father and grand-father, Walter F. and C. K. C. Harris respectively started the firm Harris & Son In 1885. In 1917 it was again Harris and Son, this time Walter and Elmer. The firm continued in business until 1947, when it was purchased by Winborns. The part bearing the name had junt been finished at the time this picture was taken.







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EXTERIOR, AFOVE; INTERIOR, BELOW-OF TOMASEK HARNESS SHOP



The boy on the pile of lap robes is Francis Tomasek, now an attorney in Grinnell; Frank Tomasek, standing, was for many years a harness maker of Williamsburg. The building now houses Glandorf and Mayberry Electric.



According to Kinta Williams, daughter of W. Frank Williams, this picture was taken during 1894 in front of his shop in a space now occupied by the Lillis Variety Store. At the left edge of the picture is Albert Horse who ran a store in the building now housing Hogan's Hardware Store. At that time the harness shop was so narrow that Mr. Williams often referred to it as the "two-by-four" building. Just south of it was a restaurant occupying a considerably larger area. A later remodeling divided up the area, the north side a barber shop (the frame structure establishments that were destroyed by fire a few years ago.)



JUST FOR CONTRAST

we show you this modern scene at the same corner where Highway 149 crosses the I.W.V.

The upstairs of the modern building has in the past served as an armory for training the lational Guard, also as agymnasium for the

school.
The old buildling corries the
sign Frans Feed
Forn.



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### LET'S TALK THINGS OVER



This is not a "centennial" picture; rather it was taken at about the "turn of the century". Identification is from left to right: George E. Poyneer, M. J. Kelly, Harry E. Hull, Evan J. Owen, Robert E. Owen, Thomas J. Evans, Evan W. Edwards, and David O. Jones.

WELSH "BCARD OF TRADE"



These men are some of the pioneers who helped build Williamsburg. Then at retirement age they often met in the park to discuss the "good old days" as well as the issues of the day. They were known to the people of the town and county as the "Board of Trade"

Left to right: David R. Evans, Benjamin Harris, William H. Jones, (Cringoid), Owen R. Jones, Robert Powell (standing), David T. Jones (Kentucky), David Davis, John W. Davis and David Roberts. The younger man standing is Howell Williams, Jr.

MODERN CENTENNIAL VERSION - WITH SOUND EFFECTS



These men consented to portray the "Welsh Board of Trade" in the pageant. They are left to right: Roy Willey, William Von Ahsen, Ed Iluedepohl, Fred Nash, Elias Jones and Arnold Slaymaker. Mrs. Harvin Bricker, carrying the microphone, asked the questions of the members of the "panel". The 1957 questions and answers were probably less serious than they would have been back in about 1907.

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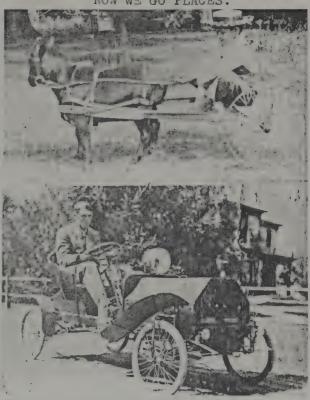
The provided and applications of the contraction of

THEY RODE HIGH IN THE "NINETIES"



Here is Walter Harrington with his highwheeled bicycle, in proper apparel for riding it. The picture was supplied by Mrs. Howard Harrington from the collection left by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Harrington when they were Williamsburg's official photographers.

NOW WE GO PLACES.



Transportation in Williamsburg made quite a change in a decade. So did the boy. He and the young man are the same, namely, Howard Harrington. With him in the top picture is Nanny, his goat. Below you see him with his home-made automobile which he built when he was only sixteen years old.

COME WITH ME IN MY MERRY OLDSMOBILE.



This picture of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Harrington and their Oldsmobile was taken from a 1903 calendar and supplied to us by Mrs. Howard Harrington. The Oldsmobile was the first car in Williamsburg and the second of its kind in the state of Iowa. Mr. Harrington, one time Williamsburg photographer, later went into the automobile business and sold Overlands. The present Howard Harrington Garage was his place of business.

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### BACK HOME AFTER A DAY AT THE WILLIAMSBURG FAIR

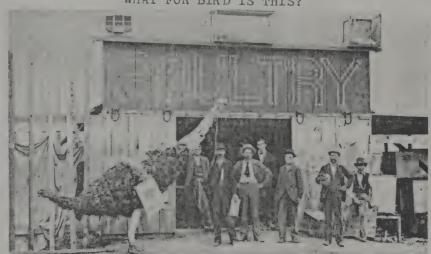


Not a photograph, this post card advertises the Williamsburg Fair of 1907. The lady on the bench is being licked by the black cow behind her. Thinking it's her boy-friend, she says "Oh, Percy! How Dare You!"

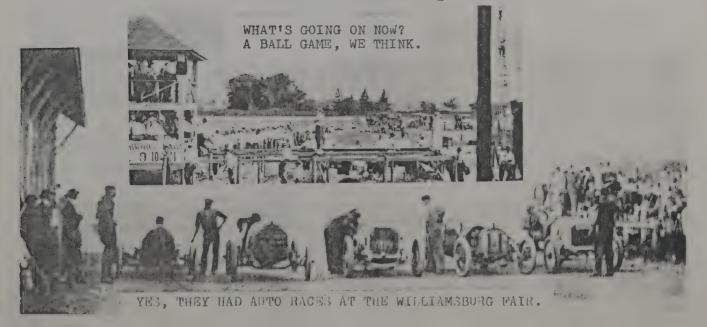


In the buggy leading the procession are Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Jones and Cora Hakes. Drawing the vehicle is "Old Claude."

WHAT FOR BIRD IS THIS?

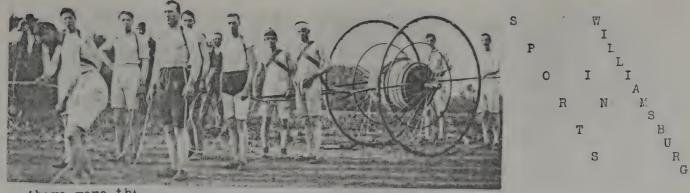


At the first fair in Williamsburg the "chicken" shown her was exhibited. It was built by W. R. Long, who was one of the prominent poultry men of the time. He used Milton Barnard and Roscoe Mayne in relays for power to propel the fowl. A pair of cow horns were fastened to the legs for spurs. The pic ture shows Ray Mayne, "Janitor Bill" Williams, Milton Jones, Walter Long, Mr. Seiler, and Evan Evans admiring the bird.



Leader Cund ins ess at the first fair in williamsburg the "obloken" off wind per two last III Learn on Could and the

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Above were tha winners at the Cedar Rapids and Muscatine Tournaments of the Iowa State Firemen's Association. L. Keil, Charles Maris, Aubrey Edwards, Joe Yates, Harry Carmichael, Lew Ed-wards, John Jones, Milton Jones, Tom McDonnell, Roscoe Mayne and Felvert were ahead on the line-out of the The obpicture. ject of the "hosecart" races was to see who could get to the fire first and put it out.

Earl Enochson
supplied the picture which was used
in Harley Ransom's
"Pioneer Recollections."



This picture furnished by Mrs. Howard Harrington shows a foot-race on the south side of the square. Our guess is that it was taken about the year 1900 and that it was at a 4th of July celebration, for there are flags being displayed. Most of those watching the race are men and boys. Whether it was lack of interest or propriety that kept them away, we don't know; but the ladies are seen mostly in the buggies, visiting on the sidewalks, or proceeding on their way apparently unmindful of the "big doings" in the arena.



THEY WERE GOOD IN 1903.

The picture at the left is Williamsburg's high school baseball team of 1903. Identification is from left to right. Seated: Fred Poyneer, Bill Perry, J. D. "Jane" Lewis, Ralph Evans and Fred Fletcher. Standing: Earl Lortz, Bob Nicholas, Pete McCune, George Dane. "Jane" Lewis (who still maintains an interest in baseball) was catcher. Fred Poyneer was pitcher. The place the games were played was Hakes' Pasture, northwest of the Old Man's Creek Bridge on Highway 149. The fact that Williamsburg High School beat the state champions, Cedar Rapids, on two occasions was proof of their excellent ability.

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This picture furnithed by Mrs. Horard darrington shows a frethmass on the state side of the square. Our goess is that it was been and the part is to state at a that y calcirolars, for their are if an inverse darring frequence of the state at a fill an inverse darring doct of those metals was twelved the mas their of the transfer of the propriety that was twelved the area, we can't record too the indees are each wastly in the bandas are each wastly in the bandas are seen

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E ANTHAIS HAVE REALLY "TAKEN OVER" THIS SITUATION



The don't know how he did it; but if it concerned photography, Walter Harrington would figure out how. It is his face at the top looking out of the tent. Art Lewis is below.

HINTER SCENE ON WHISH STREET, SOUTH SIDE OF SQUARE



The include this view partly because it is a good winter scene, also because it shows one of the town pumps and a watering trough. The steeple at the right is that of the Methodist Church. The one at the left is St. Mary's Catholic Church.

ENGINE, THRESHING LACHINE, AND CREW



The men in the picture are Bert Kurcheson, Walter Harrington, and Frank McGillicuddy.

TAKING MOTHER CUT TO DINNER



Mrs. Earl Enochson supplied this picture of her mother, Mrs. Hattie Tanner, and her brother, Harley Ransom, dining in a Chicago hotel.

A NOTE OF THE PARTY OF THE PROPERTY OF

PRACTICAL NURSE FOR THREE GENERATIONS OF WILLIAMS BURG RESIDENTS



Mrs. Mary Spellman FLAG MAKER



This is Mrs. William R. Long, who in 1896 made an enormous flag costing over a hundred dollars. It hung in the old Opera House and served as an inspiration for many a patriotic occasion in Williamsburg.

"Mrs. Mary A. Cascaden
Spellman resided in Williamsburg for 67 years, and long
followed the calling of a
practical nurse. She was
present at the ushering in
of more babies than any
nurse that ever lived in this
county. She was known in
countless homes, and she never forgot the army of children at whose coming into
the world she officiated.

Women may come and go, but Mrs. Spellman will still remain in the hearts of all who knew and loved her. It is felt that the wonderful human sympathies she pos-

sessed were accounted for in part through those to whom she ministered, and naturally were extended to all mankind."

The above quotation was from a clipping furnished by Mrs. Florence Frazier, a niece of Mrs. Spellman.

Mrs. Spellman was 81 at the time of her death, which occurred in 1937.



This is Thomas Hanson, Irish immigrant who settled in southeast Troy Township soon after the arrival of the three Welsh pioneer families. Many present inhabitants of the Williamsburg area trace their ancestry to him or his brothers. Mr. Hanson was one of Iowa County's early commissioners who helped divide the county into townships and name them.

FIRST SCHOOL TEACHER



Mrs. Hannah Minerva Long was the original owner of the land just west of the Williams Addition to Williamsburg. Part of her farm later became the Hannah M. Long Addition. It is said whe was the first to teach school to Williamsburg children, and that in her own home.

### WILLIAMSBURG'S NURSERY WOMAN, MRS. HATTIE TANNER

Williamsburg has both past and present had its share of people who were blessed with "the green thumb." And one of the most notable of these was Mrs. Hattie Seymour Ransom Tanner. She could both raise the flowers and arrange them into a bouquet with expert taste and ability. She planted trees in the park; she took orders and delivered fruit trees and plants. This picture supplied to us by Mrs. Tanner's daughter, Mrs. Earl Enochson, shows this remarkable woman in a suitable setting, in her garden with her flowers.

### THE STANDED OF THE PARTY OF MAG. MAG. HATTER TRANSCORP

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CLASS PLAY, 1909, "THE RIVALS"

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PLAY ACTING IS FUN

aker, Miriam Evans, left to right: Lettie Oldaker, Miriam Evans, Etta Long, Vera Holmes, James Gaffney, Ruth Nelson, Jean Parr, Catherine Dunne (Keil), Irvin Sinn (Dr.), Beatrice Rock, Marguerite Gode, Lucile Ransom (Enochson), Emma Blythe.

According to Elmer Harris who supplied Tilliams, Anna Kuch (Thomas), Florence us with the picture, the class of 1909 was the graduate from the old grade building. Evans Cora , left to right: Roy Amanda Durr, Harvey Edwards, Billy Pierce, vans), Everett Evans, Leighton Roscoe Holden, Flmer Harris, "The Rivals". Cast of Gittins, last to Stanley Welson. Hakes

CHORAL UNION PRESENTS THE CANTATA, "QUEEN ESTHER"



Identification of the characters in this picture was supplied rs. .c.ard Nicholas, who was one of the cast for the one non-Methodist, namely, J. Schooley, Lrs. Lettie Harrington, orse, irs. Jennie Gardner, younger set of the Methodist Left to right, , Elmer Snell, Ola Ealter Smith, Rose Long, J. ike, Laude Smith Nicholas, Mont. Pike. presented in the Trojan Opera House. , who milayed the part of teacher. , Berthe Pike, Lrs. Myrtle Snell man Hanaford, Mrs. Albert M put on by the the assistance of Front row: play

Mrs. Cecile Jones Frazier who supplied us with this picture gives 1911 or 1912 as the probable production date.

Back row, left to right: Pearl Long, Rachel Williams, Ruth Jones, Leona Lortz, Ethel Englebert, Evelina Morrin, Ella A. Irene Edwards. Front row: Irene Drake, Ellis Lloyd (director); Gean Evans, Davie Williams, Bert Misbach, Margaret Lewis, Haline Parry, Ethel Williams, Mrs. Salph Jones, Rosetta Kell, Lucile Rarsom, Howell Williams, Lewis Niowe, Luella Kell, Florence Ellis, Homer Freeze, Amanda Durr, O. G. Jones, Milo March Johns, Allyn Evans, Cecile Jones, Children, left to right,



This picture and the following quoted paragraph appears in Harley Ransom's book PIONEER RECOLLECTIONS. We secured the picture from Earl Enochson. Henry Halverson was lieutenant of the organization and had charge of the Williamsburg branch of the unit. Practice was held in the upstairs of the present Smith Garage. In the days prior to World War I, when the cavalry unit was in existence, this building was known as "The Armory."

"Troop C belonged to the First Quadron of National Guard Cavalry that was organized in the United States. It was headed by Captain Ray Yenter of Oxford where half of Troop C was located. Among those shown in the picture are Henry Halverson, Glenn Halverson, Floyd Edwards, Grant Olson, Milford Engelbert, Marcus Faltinson, Will Davies, Russell Williams, Roscoe Holden, Red Hoyt, R. G. Keil, David Williams, Elisha Schooley, Erdis Burns, Lloyd Edwards, Robert Harris, Jimmie Miller, Herman Greider, Irwin Jones, Earl Enochson, Fred Edwards."

RECOGNIZE A FUTURE BANKER HERE?

RECOGNIZE A FUTURE BANKER HERE?



The picket fence, board walk and pointy-toed shoes prove that this picture was taken some time ago; the school books show that the boys were on their way home from school. Left to right: Ed McDonald, Frank Hastings, Osborne E. (Oz) Jones.



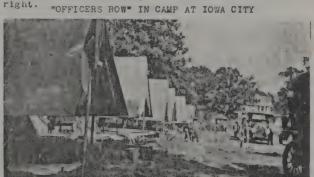
Front row: left to right: Sammie Figg, Orville Owen, Mary Gardner, Jecond row: Ella Jones, Eva Figg, Dannie Figg, Clark Jones, Eva Figg, Dannie Figg, Clark Jones, Eva Jones, Jones, David R. Lugh, Frank Jones, Jones, Jones, Burty G. Jones, Will D. Jones, Burt Gardner, May Read, Teacher. Third row: Leo Smith, Hattie Hayes, Nellie Owen, Read, Teacher. Third row: Leo Smith, Hattie Hayes, Nellie Owen, Lawell Repeat, Gaussie Hayes, Nellie Moyers, Walter Moyers, Fearl Haseox, Livzie Jones, Fellit Read, Elmer Lugh, unknown, Lather Jones, Ambrey D. Jones, Back row: Maggie Jones, Alice Jones, Mande Smith, Simile Lugh, Delle Read, Dainy Gardner, Nell Jones, Inc. Jones, Effic Gardner, Fred Jones, Walter Jones, Ed Gardner.



Top man on the pile is R. G. Keil, next high is Marcus Faltinson, will Davies at right.
Floyd Edwards beneath
Keil's right foot. bottom row center is Milford tom row center is Milfor Englebert, LRoyd Edwards,



Lieutenant Henry Halverson Roscoe Holden at his right



AN EARLY WILLIAMSBURG HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING



Top left, Principal Hukill, Top center, Leonard Davis, Top right, Old School Grade and High on south side of present Grade School Lot. Middle row, left tright: Minnie Pierce, Iva Johnson, Maggie Jones, Mae McEachran, Mattie Jones. Bottom row: Susie Hanson (Nolan), Walter Smith, Eva Davis, Ray Nayne, Nell Flanagan.

A WILLIAMSBURG HIGH SCHOOL CLASS PIGNIC



Top row: Bess Ogden, Alice Davis, Belle McFarland, Miss Clara Fugh, Ella Jones Tomasek, Maude Sheetz Harrington, Charlie Hastings, Front: Frank Hastings, Nell Pierce Hart, Gertryde Cittins Alberts, Glenn Ogden, Eddie McDonald, "Oz" Jones in front. In middle: Nell Jones Cook, Ann Gittins Hull, Lou Shootz Edwards.

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#### JOURNEY AROUND THE SQUARE

SOMETHING'S BEEN ADDED HERE - AND WE DON'T MEAN THE HORSE.



This picture looking northwest along the west edge of the square shows some changes. Instead of open spaces and trees we find the three modern buildings that today house the Post Office, the Farmers Bank and Peterson Drug. The steeple of the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church subsequence that the far end of the street. The trees of the park have grown also. However, the horseless carriage hadn't yet replaced "Old Dobbin."

THIS WASN'T TAKEN ON THE FOURTH OF JULY



This view is looking east across the park. Buildings are on the east side of the square; the sleds are on the south.

TWO WILLIAMSBURG STREET VIEWS TAKEN IN 1901





These pictures supplied to us by John Werner were taken in 1901 by Gus Ristau of Kaukauna, Wisconsin, then on a visit to Iowa County. The top view is looking east on State Street (north side of square). The bottom view is of the east side of the square looking north. (Court Street)

LCCKING NORTHWEST ON ELL STREET (West side of the Square)





J. C. Nicola's Clothing Store in the brick building and Fletcher's Orug Store in the frame building snow plainly in the two views. Both are probably Fourth of July scenes, judging from the decorations. Apparently the custom of business men entering floats in a parade is not new in Williamsburg, for the picture proves they were at it at least fifty years ago.

LOOKING SOUTHEAST ON MELSH STREET (South Side of Square)



The buildings showing in the picture that still remain are the four brick stores at the east end, Vinton Produce (between J.D. Shaull and Meat Market), and Howard Harrington's garage (at extreme right). The present Coast to Coast Store building had not been built at the time of the picture, its site being a vacant lot. The steeple of the old St. Mary's Church projects above the "Meat Market." To its left is the Methodist Church Steeple.



Looking southwest on Welsh Street (south side of the square). The street car is a photographer's trick, accomplished by splicing two negatives.

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## Old Landmarks

FIRST STORE OF WILL R. EVANS AND MASONIC TEMPLE NOW SERVE AS GARAGE.



Howard Harrington's Garage once stood at the south end of the west side of the square, where it housed Will R. Evans' store with the Masonic Hall above. It was moved at about 1890 to its present site. The present Coast to Coast Store was once the Citizens Savings Bank. OLD LANDMARK WITH NEW CITY HALL



The present Stake Hotel was originally "Williamsburgh Journal", June 14, 1884, states: "Israel Lyon will have his new hotel ready for occupation in a few days."

MAIL FOR "STELLAPOLIS"

NEW AND OLD VIEW FROM ELEVATOR TOWER





The top view was taken from a "cat-walk" at the top of Winborns' north elevator. The bottom view was probably taken from the same place when the elevator was owned by Harris and Son. The two views are shown to compare the old with the modern. New additions are the Grade School, York Creamery, the oil tanks, Iowa County Farm Service Station, Art Iburg's house and Fred Wardenburg's house. Gone are the horse pasture and canning factory.

it in his kitchen. His home was on the site of the present Roy Shellady home. The cabinet is

now housed in the mayor's office in the City Hall.

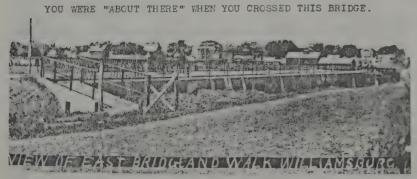
FIRST AND SECOND BANKS FOR WILLIAMSBURG



Albert Hanson now uses Williamsburg's Albert Hanson now uses Williamsburg's first bank building as a garage. Built in 1884 it served as temporary quarters of the bank until the more permanent structure could be built. The corner building shown below was the second home for the bank. On either side of the corner door it bears the date 1884, making it probably the oldest brick business structure in Williamsburg. Accordation of the Williamsburg to the first issue of the Williamsburg to the first issue of the bank just burg where all mailburgh Journal, the name of the bank just was addressed to being organized was "Williamsburgh Sav-"Stellapolis". John ings Bank". The second building housed Hughes, Sr. am ear-the bank until the present Security ly postmaster kept Bank Building was constructed.



THE CANNING FACTORY



This was the bridge over Old Man's Creek which you crossed to come into Williamsburg from the east. The banisters and sidewalk were no doubt for the convenience and safety of the pedestrian "commuters" from "Evansville" and a safe way of dealing with traffic out to the Williamsburg Fair Grounds. The view was taken from a pasture on the north side of the road. Prominent in the distance is the tower of the old grade school.



This "sway-backed" old building was torn down in March, 1956, to make room for a more usable storage building. Compare this with the same building at the right in elevator view on this page to see it when it was in a better state of preservation.

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We have no definite date for this picture except that it was after 1892 when the addition to the schoolhouse was completed (distant left); and before the extension was made to the Catholic Church (right of center). The Methodist parsonage shows prominently at the left, with the old Methodist church building beside it and the old Brick Congregational church farther down.

TWO VIEWS ACROSS THE SQUARE IN ABOUT 1890



This view appears in Harley Ransom's "Pioneer Recollections" under the title "Williamsburg in 1890." It was taken from near the east end of the south side of the square; the camera-man was looking north. Buildings that still remain are the Lytle and Kelly building (now Langley's Jewelry and Papritz' Maytag Store) and the old Williamsburg Bank building across the street north.



This picture looking southwest across the square from the northeast corner was probably taken at the same time as the above view, as a comparison of the evergreen tree sizes would indicate (foreground of top picture and left in this one). The three brick buildings at the right and Harrington's Garage (white frame building in center) still romain. Notice how the three posts at the corner prevented vehicles from cutting across but permitted pedestrians to pass through.



The old windmill and water tower stood on the high ground south of the southwest corner of the square known as "Piety Hill." It was in about the same location as the present pump house. High elevation and the height of the tower gave pressure for the water system. And what a good place for a camera-man to get a "bird's eye view" of the town.

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According to the sign painted on the drum, the Williamsburg Silver Eand was organized June 4, 1894. Left to right, the members are, upper row: W. D. Jenkins, Harry Carmichael, Rollo Wilson, Mr. Kelly, band leader, D. Milton Jones, Leo Kinney, Ed Butler. Center row: Will L. Jones, Joe Yates, Ray Layne, Walter Jones, Lew Edwards, Walter Evans, Ellis Lloyd, Elisha Schooley. Lower row: John H. Jones, Van Kirkpatrick, leighton Morse, Art Lewis, Walter Kuch, Art Williams. Williams. TWIRLERS GLAMOURIZE A BAND

BOY SCOUT BAND, DECORATION DAY, 1918



Ralph Matheson, leader of this band and other Williamsburg town bands to follow, had been in town only two months when this picture was taken. In keeping with the patriot ic fervor of the day, the boys were wearing army uniforms. No attempt will be made to identify these boys, as a number of them appear in the larger picture taken in 1920.

AN "UP AND COMING \* TOWN NEEDS Α GOOD BAND.

THE 1958 MODELS ARE CO-EDUCATIONAL



Reid Beweridge and Nancy Slaymaker model the uniforms of the Williamsburg Communi-ty School Band. Interesting to note, the bands of the "good old days" were for men and boys only. Perhaps the thought was that the ladies couldn't carry the instruments. This picture disproves that theory.

Ruth Ann James, Jerilyn Oliwer & Katy O'Donnell THE SCHOOL BAND, DECORATION DAY, 1955



EARLY WILLIAMS BURG BAND MENUBER IN FULL ATTIRE



Bottom row, left to right: Merlyn Lewis, Eldon Jones, Arthur Long, Roas Morrison, Kervin Simmons, Wayne Montgomery, Willard Manor, Paul Toomey, Leslie Jones. Second row: Alfred Kehlenbeck, Max Montgomery, William Cash, Edward Von Hoene, Ralph H. Matheson, band loader, Dwight Williams, Duane Gardner, Ferdinand Mews, Cyril Toomey. Third row: Kenneth Lewis, Clerk Mythe, Irvin Shames, Owen Divilbias, Rob Eughes, Farry Lee, Claude Toomey. Upper row: Leonard Hanson, Tom Jones, Floyd Manor, Evan Jones, Morris Frazier, Vivion Gardner, David Williams.



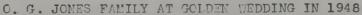
This is W. R. Long whom many will remember as the father of Mrs. Bertha Jones and Mrs. Amanda Durr. A carpenter by trade, Mrs. Long was a man of many other interests as well, and will are held the property. including photography, poul-try ruising, and music. He wears his uniform well, doesn't he?



#### THEY HELFED MAKE WILLIAMSBURG HISTORY



This picture of Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Jones was taken at their Golden Wedding, Jan. 6, 1948. Mrs. Jones, formerly Mary Hakes and a native of Williamsburg, made a hobby of collecting historical information about the town of Williamsburg. It was her work that served as a starting point for the compiler of the series of articles known as "Milestone 100" and this centennial booklet as well.





Front row, left to right: Mrs. Jack Yearian (Eunice), O. G. Jones holding Sara Yearian, Susan Yearian, Mrs. O. G. Jones holding Rhys Jones, Mrs. Paul Frazier (Cecile)

Back row: Mrs. Burton Jones, Leroy (Jack) Yearian, Mary Janet Frazier, Paul Frazier, Burton Jones.

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THE "HOW AND WHEN" OF OUR CHURCHES

Williamsburg is often described as a city of beautiful churches. While at one time there were as many as six church groups, the number has since been reduced to four, sufficient to serve the needs of Williamsburg's church-goers. The story of five of these will be given indi-Vidually. This page is a resume of all and how they served the needs of the times.

Shortly after the founding of Williamsburg as a town the Welsh Congregational Church was founded (1856) to serve the Welsh speaking settlers. A year later (1857) an American Congregational Church was established and existed for twentyfive years before it changed affiliation to Presbyterian. Then in 1868 another Welsh speaking church made its appearance as a sister organization of the Welsh Prairie Church of York Township. Its affiliation was Calvinistic Methodist, in theology and administration resembling the Presbyterian rather than the Methodist. Both churches were served by the same minister who would go from Williamsburg to Welsh Prairie on Saturday afternoon, stay overnight, preach for morning services, then return to Williamsburg for afternoon or evening services. Never strong in size, and because it clung to the use of the Welsh Language long after the need existed, this church closed its doors (1919). Its membership was absorbed largely by the Presbyterian Church.

It is interesting to note that, although Williamsburg had only 130 inhabitants in 1880, there were three separate church buildings, the ones mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

The coming of the railroad in 1884 and the subsequent rapid growth of the town made it inevitable that more churches would be needed for

the newcomers of varying faiths. Irish Catholics moved in from the Holbrook area. They established St. Mary's parish in 1887 and built their first building in 1890, the same year that the Presbyterians and Welsh Congregationalists built their second buildings. The Methodists had set off this church building "boom" two years before (1888) with their first building, shown on this page.

The German Lutherans (Missouri Synod) were "last but not least" on the church

scene. They built a small church in 1904. Their rapid growth soon made a larger building necessary, the present one (1923). This structure was the last of a third round of new buildings started off by the Congregationalists in 1917, the Methodists in 1918, and the Catholics and Presbyterians in 1920.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC, OLD METHODIST CHURCH



DROPPED FROM THE SCENE



This "Little Welsh Church" stood 49 years (1870-1919) at the northwest corner of the square at the present site of Fetzer's oil station. Often called "Welsh Presbyterian." its proper name was Calvinistic Methodist. At first it was a plain building. The steeple and entry were added sometime before 1900.

Interesting to note, Williamsburg church history involves three situations in which an Old World language prevailed for more than a half century. The Congregational Church had Welsh services from 1856 to 1911 (55 years); the Calvinistic Methodist, the same from 1868-to 1919 (51 years) while St. Paul's Lutheran had German services at least in part from 1904 to 1956 (52 years). In each case it was the "older generation" that insisted on "the Mother tongue", the younger members forcing the change to English

Another interesting phase of church history in Williamsburg was the merging of the Presbyterians and the Congregationalists as a result of the Presbyterian church fire. This story will receive more detailed treatment in succeeding pages.

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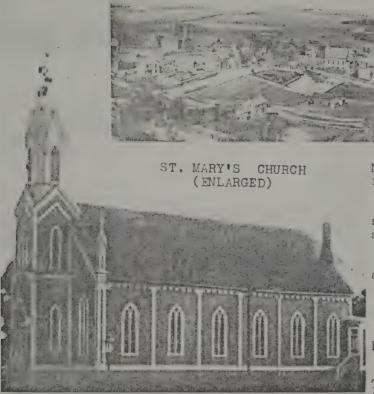
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#### CATHOLIC CHURCH GROWTH IN WILLIAMSBURG

#### BEGAN IN THE "BOOM" PERIOD

Williamsburg's emergence from thirty years of existence as an inland village into a rapidly growing town was primarily due to the coming of the railroad in 1884. Following this there was an influx of population from other areas. Among the new arrivals were some Catholics who naturally wanted a church home closer than Holbrook or Marengo. In 1890 their desire was realized in the little frame church which shows up prominently a little to the right of center in the view of the town. Later needs resulted in an enlargement of the frame building and finally in the present modern structure which adequately serves the needs of Catholics in the Williamsburg Community.



The church of 1890 had only four windows on a side, as shown in the town view, Later it was enlarged by cutting it in half, moving the front forward and piecing in the extra sides and roof in the middle, giving it the six windows as shown here.

HIGH-LIGHTS
OF

ST. MARY'S
HISTORY

1887-1890: Rev. J. C. White of Marengo read mass in the town hall for Williamsburg Catholics.

1890: The first building was constructed. Father White continued to serve.

1893: Rev. Daniel Mulvihille was appointed pastor.

1897-1900: Rev. John Cassidy served.

1900-1911: Rev. James Kissane was pastor.

1911-1928: Rev. John Glen served. The church was increased in size, but it still proved inadequate. The new building replaced it in 1920. During Father Glen's pastorate two Williamsburg native sons were ordained to the priesthood, Rev. M. G. Morrin and Rev. James J. Morrin.

ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH AND RECTORY

1928-1944: Rev. Thomas ('Dowd served the parish until he was forced to retire because of ill health. During his tenure the new pipe organ was installed.

1944: Father Greers had temporary charge until Rev. John Gaule was appointed. Father Gaule continues as the present pastor. Improving and repairing church property were major accomplishments during his tenure. The new rectory was built in 1950. Major repairs to the building were in 1951, and in 1956 the church interior was re-decorated.

(Mrs. Hugh O'Donnell supplied the information for this report.)



The present church was built in 1890, extensively repaired in 1951, and redecorated in 1956. The Rectory was built in 1950.

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PRESENT BUILDING DEDICATED OCT.7,1923



HIGH-LIGHTS OF ST. PAUL'S HISTORY

1. St. John's Church of Homestead was parent church to St. Paul's of Williamsburg and other Missouri Synod churches of Iowa County.

2. Pastor C. W. Baumhoefner of St. John's conducted occasional services in Williamsburg prior to 1898 in Presbyterian and Methodist churches and in the city hall.

3. These services were dropped when Immanuel Church was built.

4. St. Paul's Church was organized in the home of Herman Kehlenbeck, May 1, 1904

5. The first parochial school house was built in 1907.

€. The parsonage was built in 1912.

7. The first services in English were started in 1914.

8. The new parochial school building was constructed in 1953.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church - First Building



The Cornerstone of Williamsburg's first Lutheran Church was laid July 31, 1904, and the church was dedicated on Dec. 18, 1904. It was located directly west of the present parsonage. It served the needs of the congregation until 1923 when the present building was completed.

THESE PASTORS HAVE SERVED ST. PAUL'S:

Rev. C. Zollman, 1905-1906

Rev. Henry A. Koenig, 1906-1913 Rev. Hl P. Greif, 1913 -1935

Rev. Tobias H. Joeckel, 1936-1941 Rev. Enno Schuelke, 1941-1953

Rev. George E. Schubarth, 1953-1956





Originally a much smaller building, the frame structure on the left was the first Lutheran school in Williamsburg. It was built in 1907. At various times it was enlarged to provide needed extra room. In 1953, when the modern school building on the right was completed, the old "German School" became the home of the Kuch-Querl Post of the American Legion. ST. PAULIS TENNES, OLE LUBLISHE MERROW IN TELLIAR STAR OF A HALF CANGER

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8. The new parential school bullding was constructed in 1983.

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#### FIRST ON THE WILLIAMSBURG SCENE,

#### CONGREGATIONALISTS PASS CENTURY MARK

Back in 1956 while the people of Williamsburg were beginning to plan the celebration of their Century of Progress for 1957, the members of the Congregational Church celebrated a centennial of their own. For their or ization was founded on Oct. 26, 1856. The St. David's Day dinner, March 1st, was the first in the series of events. A guest day breakfast, and a Welsh tea

THE BRICK CHURCH OF 1890



This is the Congregational Church building that replaced the original frame structure. It served from 1890 until 1916 when it was torn down and replaced by the present modern building which was completed in 1917.

CUTTING THE CENTENNIAL CAKE



Mrs. Tal Jones, as the oldest living member, had the honor of cutting the Centennial Cake (made in the shape of an open Bible by Mrs. Raymond Martinson).

Identification of some of older members present is from left to right: Mrs. Ann Strike, Emma Jones, Gwendolyn Jones, Mrs. Ella Jones Durr Kooker, Mrs. Gwennie Dane, Tom Lewis, Mrs. Eleanor Everist, Mrs. Tal Jones, Mrs. Clara Gittins Jones, Gomer Jones, Ella A Jones, Mrs. Pellie Cwens, John H. Jones, Mrs. Janora Jones, un-identified member, Mrs. Dave Cwen.

INTERIOR DECORATED FOR MEMORIAL SERVICE



This picture was taken from the balcony while the afternoon crowd was assembling, Oct. 28, 1956, one hundred years and two days the date of the founding of the church.

were events that followed. The ladies wore centennial dress or Welsh costumes on these occasions. A pageant entitled "A Century of Pilgrim Faith was presented the evening of Oct. 27. Sunday, Oct. 28 was the occasion for two services a morning communion and an afternoon memorial service.

THIS BUILDING DEDICATED APR. 11, 1917



RE-ENACTS GRANDFATHER'S RCLE



Allyn Evans is the grandson of Williamsburg's first resident minister, Evan J. Evans, who, after serving several years as pastor of the Welsh Congregational Church, settled down to make Williamsburg his home. In the Congregational Church pageant Allyn played the part of his grandfather in dedicating the first church building in Williams-burg. His son, Cris (left) and Tommy Everist (center) played the part of visiting Welsh preachers.

DIRECT DESCENDENTS OF CHURCH PROPERTY DONOR



Richard Williams, a charter member of the Welsh Congregational Church and founder of the town of williamsburg, donated the land on which the Congregational Church was built. His great-granddaughter, Mrs. Jeanstte Lewis, and son, Bobbie, assisted in the church pageant.

# COLHOOH-U

SOME SENIOR MEMBERS AND A FORMER PASTOR



Front, left to right: Mrs. Dave Owen, Mrs. Maurice Williams, Ers. Tal Jones, Mrs. Clara Gittins Jones, Back: Tom Lewis, Alfred James, Rev. George E. Meyer, John H. Jones.

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#### HIGHLIGHTS OF CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH HISTORY

1844: Troy Township's first settlers were Welsh Congregationalists. They held membership in Johnson County's "Old Man's Creek Church" from 1846 to 1856.

Oct. 26, 1856: The Welsh Congregational Church of Williamsburg was founded in the home of William Evans by Rev. Jonathan Thomas. Visiting clergymen, among whom were Rev. David Knowles of Long Creek, Rev. George Lewis of Old Man's Creek and Morris Jones, occupied the pulpit on various occasions. Services were mostly Sunday Schools and prayer meetings held in homes of the members and in the new school house which was built in 1858.

1858: Rev. Evan J. Evans arrived to begin his pastorate which lasted fourteen years. He was the first resident pastor of Williamsburg.

1859: The first church building was constructed on a lot donated by Richard Williams founder of Williamsburg. Evan D. Evans mortgaged his farm to help finance the construction.

1871: The building was enlarged.

1890: Roger Jones moved the first frame building of the Congregational Church to his lot just north of the church lot. He also served as contractor to build the new \$4,000 brick structure that was to serve until the present building replaced it.

1897: Evening services in English displaced Welsh. Later there was

one English morning service per month.

1911: The English language displaced the Welsh language entirely

in the services.

1916: Under the pastorate of Rev. Robert Tipton, the cornerstone of the new church was laid. "The ceremony was unique in that there was in attendance, along with a few others who had seen the first church blossom into existence, Mrs. Ann Evans, the eighty-fouryear-old widow of the first resident minister, Rev. Evan J. Evans.

Wife of First Minister A Witness, Both Old and New



Mrs. Ann Evans' life is of interest to Williamsburg people. The Ann Evans Addition to Williamsburg is named for her. Some of her descendants still live in the community. And in 1916 at the age of 84, she assisted in the ceremony of laying the corner stone for the present modern church building.

Rev. Evan J. Evans. Within the cav-

ity of the stone was placed a copper box which received an English Bible, a Welsh Bible, a copy of the Constitution and By-laws, a list of the church officers and members, some old coins, copies of church literature, and a copy of the Williamsburg Journal-Tribune. Then the venerable old lady, Mrs. Ann Evans, was assisted to the wall where she spread the mortar on the inscribed stone."

April 8, 1917: The new church was dedicated.

1956: Oct. 27: Centennial Pageant: "A Century of Pilgrim Faith". Oct. 28: Centennial morning service with communion and after-

noon memorial service.

1957: A series of events beginning with the Presbyterian Church fire led to negotiations to unite the two denominations. The building of the Congregationalists became the new home of the Presbyterians. The affiliation, by mutual agreement between the two state organizations, became Presbyterian. The first joint services were held June 16. On June 23, Dr. Judson Fiebiger of the State Association of Congregational Christian Churches preached. Aug. 11, Rev. Gary Maranell preached his last sermon before leaving to join the faculty of the State University of Iowa. Rev. B. Stuart Slater, Presbyterian pastor, continued on as pastor after having occupied the pulpit jointly with Mr. Maranell during the interim of the changeover to the union. On Sept. 15 the union was officially consummated, with Dr. Harry Schneider, Synod Executive of the Iowa Synod of the Presbyterian Church, U.S. A., in charge.

#### Pastors of the Congregational Church in Order of Sequence In Which They Served

Evan J. Evans, David Price, Morris E. Davis, James Vilander Jones, Henry Davis, R. E. Roberts, John Roberts, Robert Tipton (installed 1915), John Roberts, John A. Pritchard (1922-1928), Rudolph Gilbert (1928-1931), Aultin M. Miles (1931-1933), George E. Meyer (1933-1935), Malcom M. Miller (1935-1938), O. B. Preston (1938-1954), Harry T. Ehlers (1954-1955), Gary Maranell (1955-1957).

Williamsburg's First Resident Minister



The Rev. Evan J. Evans was the first resident minister of Williamsburg's first church, the Welsh-Congregational. After serving for fourteen years, he retired and continued to live in Williamsburg. Allyn Evans and Mrs. Catherine Sears are his grandchildren.

#### HIGHLIGHTS DE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH HIS

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#### A Church That Became A City Hall



Before the second building of the Presbyterians was erected the first one was moved to the north side of the square where it served as a city hall. The picture was taken during the process of tearing down the old building to make way for the present city hall.

#### Looking Southwest at The Second Church And Manse



The first two Presbyterian churches stood north of the site of the last church (which burned), while the manse was south on the corner. This second church was built in 1890 and served until 1920.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HISTORY

1857: Under the leadership of the Rev. W. F. Gale an organization of seventeen members was formed into a church to be known as the "American Congregational Church" to distinguish it from the Welsh Congregational Church that was organized the year previous. Services were held in homes and the school house until 1871.

1871: The first church building was constructed on the lot north of the site where the most recent church burned.

Oct. 1, 1882: In financial difficulties, and having received financial help from the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions, the fifty-two members of the American Congregational Church changed their affiliation to Presbyterian. They were joined by fifteen Presbyterians living in the community. Rev. W. R. Stewart, Presbyterian minister from Marengo who had for some time been holding services in Williamsburg, promoted the change-over and became resident minister for the Williamsburg church.

1890: The first building was moved to the north side of the square where it served as the city hall. The second building was constructed on the site of the first.

1891: The present manse was built at the corner south of the church (present site of the church that burned).

# PRESBYTCRIAN CHURCH

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#### The Modern Church and Its Predecessor



When the third church was built, 1918-1920, the manse was moved west to make room for it. The second church continued to be used until the new one was ready. Here they are shown together (view looking northwest). The new church was in use from 1920 until Jan. 14, 1957, when it was destroyed by fire.

1918: Plans were made and work begun on a new church. The manse was moved west to its present site so that the new church could be on the corner.

Sept. 12, 1920: The new church building was dedicated.

Jan. 14, 1957: The church building burned. After holding one service in the Methodist Church and one in the Congregational Church, a temporary place of worship was agreed upon, namely, the Lutheran Parochial School building which offered good

facilities both for Sunday School and regular worship services. Then acting upon an invitation of the Congregational Church to discuss a possible union, the churches entered into negotiations which resulted in the joining of the two congregations. The affiliation was to be Presbyterian, and the Congregational building was to be the church home for the two organizations which had formerly existed as separate units for one hundred years or better. The first joint service was held June 16, 1957. The official consummation of the union took place Sept. 15, 1957.

#### Pastors Who Have Served The Presbyterian Church

Rev. W. F. Gale (starting 1857), B. F. Jones, W. A. Patton (1865), H. S. Clark (1869-1873), N. D. Archer, Geo. Ritchie, W. R. Stewart (Presbyterian), Thomas C. McFarland (1888-1905), Daniel Scott (1905-1906), D. W. Montgomery (1906-1909), Thomas E. Sherman (1909-1917), Glen J. Shillerstrom (1918-1921, H. M. Poston (1921-1930), James B. Hodgson (1930-1935), August H. Grossheim (1936-1939), William T. Baird (1940-1944), Lloyd Cleon Snyder (1944-1949), Jerome J. Leksa (1950-1954), B. Stuart Slater (1955-1958).

(Materials for the above facts were gleaned from writings of Mrs. Ella Jones Tomasek and Mrs. Mary Hakes Jones)

#### Present Church Home



As a result of a church union consummated in 1957 Presbyterians and Congregationalists now worship "under the same roof".

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Pastors Who Have Served The

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#### HIGHLIGHTS OF METHODIST CHURCH HISTORY

First Building of St. Paul's
Methodist Church



This church was constructed in 1888 and served until 1917.

1867: A circuit was established in which Methodist services were held in the upper room of the old school house in Williamsburg and in various other school houses in the county.

June 8, 1870: A 160 ft. square lot was purchased of Jane F. Starr for \$100.00 and a five room parsonage was built on the grounds of the present parsonage.

1885: Services were discontinued.

1887: Services were resumed under the direction of Rev. H. N. Smith.

1888: The east half of the lot was sold to J. M. McDougal for \$200.00 to provide a start for the new church. This added to a loan and a gift totaling \$500.00 from the Church Extension Society plus money raised by subscription made the building possible. The building was dedicated Nov. 18, 1888.

1892: The old parsonage was moved and the present one was built.

Aug. 5, 1917: The cornerstone for the present church was laid.

Mar. 24, 1918: The present church was dedicated.

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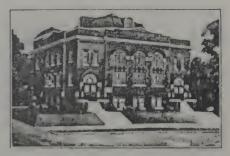
#### METHODIST MINISTERS WHO HAVE SERVED WILLIAMSBURG

(Information from Mrs. G. W. McCallister's account to 1927 and Rev. D. Merle Hill's continuation to the present.)

J. R. Noble, 1867; Y. J. Holloway, 1869; Rev. G. W. Rawlings, 1869; between 1869 and 1884; Rev. Hahn, Rev. Mann, Rev. Tull, Rev. Thomas, Rev. Trogen; Rev. H. N. Smith, 1887; Rev. Thomas

Osborn, 1899; Rev. J. W. Potter, Rev. U. B. Smith, Rev. H. F. Pugh, 1896; Rev. E. J. Pike, 1898; Rev. W. H. Dillon, 1904; E. C. Brooks 1908; C. E. Baumgarden, 1910; N. A. Swickard, 1912; J. Lambert, 1916; J. F. Rex, 1918; H. C. Druce, 1922; W. M. Doughty, 1926-1928; P. B. Gray, 1928-1930; Charles Wesley Cochran, 1930-1935; John C. Behrens, 1935-1940; John Wesley Zerbe, 1940-1942; A. H. Leonard, Robert Farr, U. S. Smith, (supply pastors), 1942-1943; J. B. Pritchard, 1943-1950; George Reichard (supply), 1950; John A. Nye, 1950-1955; Paul Williamson (supply), 1955-1956; D. Merle Hill, 1956 to present.

Present Modern Building



Dedicated Mar. 24, 1918, this building continues to serve the needs of Williamsburg's Methodists.

#### PRESIDENTS OF METHODEST CHARLESTEE OF

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Aug. 5, 1917; The cornerstone for the present church was laid.

#### METHODIST MENISTRIS WHO HAVE SERVED WELLAMSEURG

Information from Mag. C. W. Met's historia corount to U. 27 and Rev. D. Bierle Hill's coatio

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN WILLIAMSBURG THROUGHOUT THE CENTURY



The Two-Story School of 1858

Prior to 1858: Records are not too clear about how schooling was carried out in the pioneer days in the Williamsburg area. We are told that the cost of education was met by "subscription" rather than through taxation. That is to say, parents paid voluntarily to meet the cost of schooling for their children. The place for instruction was either in homes or in vacated log cabins. (It is said that Middle House at one time served as a school house.) Tradition also has it that Mrs. Hannah M. Long was the first person to instruct children in her home at the edge of Williamsburg. She consequently has been acclaimed as "Williamsburg's first school teacher."

By 1858, four years after Williamsburg was planned, a new school building was constructed. It was a white twostory frame structure which stood at the corner of Welsh and Court Streets (diag-

onally across from the southeast corner of the square). At that time the Williamsburg school was set up as sub-district No. 1 of the School Township organization of Troy Township. This building was ample in size to serve the area, since Williamsburg remained a small village until the coming of the railroad in 1884.

1886: Sub-district No. 1 became the Williamsburg Independent School District.

1887: A new 60 x 36 building was constructed on the south edge of the present grade school lot.

1891: A 30 x 42 addition was voted.

1892: A four year high school course was adopted under the principalship of A. T. Hukill.

1908: Williamsburg voters approved a plan to build a separate building for the high school on the lot where the old two room school had stood.

1912: Normal training was introduced, making it possible to train teachers for the surrounding rural schools.

1915: Manual training was introduced.

1936: The vote to build a new grade school carried.

1950: The school board purchased three buses to transport grade children from districts which were closed, also high school students who wished to avail themselves of the service. This same year vocational agriculture was

added to the curriculum.

1955: Twelve school districts, including the Williamsburg I n dependent School District and eleven rural districts, joined together to form the Williamsburg Community School District.

1956: It was voted to expand the facilities of the school by erecting a new high school and an addition to the grade school building.

1957: The new facilities were completed in time for the beginning of the 1957-58 term.

(The above information was gleaned from a short history of the Williamsburg School provided by Supt. II. C. Messer for use in the "Milestone 100" series of articles published in the Williamsburg Journal-Tribune in 1956.)



School of 1887 and 1891, Grade and "Upper Branches"

## THROUGHOUT THE CENTURY

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#### NAMING OF WILLIAMSBURG

The secretary's book for Williamsburg's Masonic lodge gives us a cue concerning the confusion that once existed over the naming of our town. It starts out: "Stated Meeting, Hall of Stellapolis Lodge No. 392, Chester (Williamsburg), Iowa, Jan. 9, 1879." Stellapolis still remains the name of the lodge. It is the only vestige of the day when Williamsburg's post office bore that unusual title.

There are many people today who will claim that Stellapolis was the first name of the town. Their basis for this belief is supported by various accounts which assumed it to be a fact. The Wanderer's Edition of the Journal-Tribune published March, 1923, states, "Williamsburg was first called 'Stellapolis', and the post office was known by that name." But the following year, 1924, another Wanderer's Edition refuted the statement through a letter from John E. Evans," . . . I had in mind to suggest some corrections in the 'History of Williamsburg. The sentence on the first page, 'Williamsburg was first called Stellapolis' should be eliminated, because incorrect. It was called Williamsburg from its beginning and for several years before the name Stellapolis was invented." Both names were used for several years, one for the postoffice, and one for the town.

Various explanations have been given for the name "Stellapolis". The one most accepted, is the one quoted in Mrs. O. G. Jones' "Early History of Williamsburg as told to the Grade School Pupils in 1948": "When the Rock Island Railroad was built as far as Marengo in 1860, Williamsburg petitioned for a postoffice, and Homer Paige was named the first postmaster. In the Paige family there were three daughters, and the youngest was called Stella. Her father honored her name by having it incorporated in the name of the new postoffice, and it was named 'Stellapolis', meaning Stella's City. The Paige family soon moved to Des Moines. Stella died soon after her marriage, but her name was the name of the post office for 29 years. Even though the town was named Williamsburg, all mail was addressed 'Stellapolis'."

Supporting the latter view concerning the name "Stellapolis" are two references. In the Atlas of Iowa County, Iowa, by Harrison and Warner, 1874, the map of the state shows the town to be Wiliamsburg. The county map shows "Wiliamsburg, P. O. Stellapolis". The Troy Township map mentions only Williamsburg. The detailed map of the town shows it was Williamsburg, Stellapolis P. O. However on this map the part west of present Highway 149 in green color is listed as Williams Addition, and the part east in pink color is listed as "Chester". The other references supporting the view that Stellapolis was only the name for the postoffice is found in the biographical section for Troy Township in the History of Iowa County 1881. The men listed who were farmers have the address quoted as P. O. Stellapolis, while the town residents are given as Williamsburg.

Here is a partial list showing this tendency: M. S. Anderson, Farmer, P. O. Stellapolis J. Brigham, Farmer, P. O. Stellapolis John J. Jones, Farmer, P. O. Stellapolis W. R. Evans, Merchant and Postmaster, Williamsburg

W. E. Evans, Farmer, P. O. Stellapolis George Fletcher, Justice of the Peace and Merchant, Williamsburg. P. O. Stellapolis J. E. Jones, Physician and Surgeon, Williamsburg Rev. James V. Jones, Williamsburg.

At no place in the 1881 history does one find mention of "Chester", which leads us to believe it never was a very well accepted name. However, in most deeds and abstracts covering the period of the "seventies", the name "Chester" is used, with the name Williamsburg added by way of explanation. The most usual forms are "Williamsburg (now Chester)" or "Chester (formerly Williamsburg)". The deed given to the American Congregational Church (now the Presbyterian Church) speaks of the trustees and their successors in office of the "American Congregational Church of Chester".

Just how did "Chester" get into the records? Could it be that the attorney who did most of the legal work for Williamsburg residents simply decided on his own to name the town "Chester" as a compromise to the other two names Williamsburg and Stellapolis? Certainly there was no legal machinery for changing the name, as the town was not yet incorporated. How "Chester" got started as a name for Williamsburg may not be known, but there is a very good reason why it ended—there is another town of Chester in Iowa.

Here then is a summary: Richard Williams had the original town surveyed and platted in 1854. He had it recorded under the name Williamsburg. In 1856 he had the eighty acres west of it platted and recorded as the "Williams Addition to the Town of Williamsburg." Some time after the death of Richard Williams in 1860, the town contained a postoffice which went under the name of Stellapolis, to which all Williamsburg mail was addressed. Later on, those connected with the making of property deeds made use of the name "Chester", but usually in conjunction with the name "Williamsburg". The village was incorporated as a city under the name "Williamsburg". Also at that time the name of the postoffice was changed to correspond to the name of the town. So now, as it was in the beginning, the name is Williamsburg. And as the sign at the north end of town says, it's "Always on the Square".

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#### A Half Century in "Stellapolis" Lodge



The only remaining influence of the name "Stellapolis" in Williams burg is the Masonic lodge, "Stellapolis Lodge No. 391". Here in 1957 Ralph E. Jones received his 50 year membership certificate and pin. His son, Howard, returned from Colorado for the occasion. Left to right are "Rod" Reader, master of the Lodge, Howard Jones, R. E. Jones receiving the certificate from Mr. Reader.

#### Old Friends Discuss Old Times



A. P. (Bert) Long of Oskaloosa, Iowa, is one of the oldest 2nd generation descendants of Williamsburg pioneer families. He is the son of William and Hannah M. Long, after whom an addition to Williamsburg has been named. Mrs. Long was also considered the "first school teacher" of Williamsburg. At the suggestion of Mrs. Bertha (Long) Jones, Ted Ressler decided to make a trip to Oskaloosa to get a picture of Hannah M. Long for the "Milestone 100" Series of articles he was then writing for the Journal-Tribune. Nan Hall, a friend of the Longs, and herself a valuable source of information concerning Williamsburg, went along to visit her old friends. The picture Ted took carries this identification from left to right: A. P. (Bert) Long, his daughter, Mrs. Alice Spencer, Mrs. Bertha (Long) Jones, Mrs. Minnie Evans McCleod Long (Mrs. A. P. Long), Miss Anna (Nan) Hall.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The compiler of this book is indebted to many people for co-operation in supplying information for the "Milestone 100" Series and the historical part of this book. Their help consisted of lending copies of old books, pictures, abstracts, etc. from which materials were gleaned. Some of the older citizens gave invaluable help in telling of their own personal recollections or in identifying pictures. This list is in no sense to be considered complete and if your name should be included and is not, please accept our apology for the omission.

Mrs. Catherine Sears, Lew Yoder, Art Iburg, H. C. Messer, R. H. Halbasch, Ralph Chase, Fred Boland, Cecile Frazier, David Pugh, Walter Evans, Judge Harold D. Evans, J. D. Lewis, Clara Gittins Jones, Ed Gittins, Roscoe (Bud) Mayne, Mrs. Howard Harrington, Bob Hughes, Mrs. Orson Harrington, Harley Ransom, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Enochson, Harriet, Susan, and Catherine Parry, Mrs. Nell Jones Cook, Miss Grace McCallister, Rev. D. Merle Hill, Francis Tomasek, Miss Minta Williams, Mrs. Bertha (Long) Jones, Ralph Matheson, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. (Bert) Long, Miss Anna (Nan) Hall, R. E. Jones, Mrs. Fred Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Nicholas, Elmer Harris, John Bullers, Mrs. E. E. Montgomery, Mrs. J. D. Misbach, Robert Watkins, Richard Pugh, Mrs. Bess Pugh, Mrs. Hugh O'Donnell, Mrs. Damon Caldwell, John Werner, Mr. and Mrs. Char-Iburg, Mrs. Elizabeth Davies, Wm. Roberts, O. E. Jones.





Butph E. Jones received his 50 year membership certificare and pin.



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#### May Flower Edition, His Work



The original of this picture bears the following description on the back: "June 25, 1904, Saturday" afternoon, J. P. Gallagher, Editor." The paper he is holding bears the title "Williamsburg Journal". Mrs. Leo O'Meara, niece of Mr. Gallagher, loaned us the picture.

### MAY FLOWER EDITION

On April 30, 1903, a glorified issue of the Williamsburg Journal-Tribune was published in booklet form under the name "May Flower Edition". From it we get much of our Williamsburg history of that period which may be considered the half-way mark of Williamsburg's Century of Progress. It is the work of the two publishers and editors, T. T. Osborn and J. P. Gallagher, with their assistants, Rollo Wilson and Art Williams. Here is what the paragraph about the publication says: "While we are aware that 'he who will not blow his own horn, the same shall not be blown,' we will take our chances on meeting any loss that may follow the absence of a 'puff' caused by our own modesty. The J.-T. was established February 1, 1900, when the Williamsburg Journal and the Iowa County Tribune were consolidated . . . It is independent in politics and the meaning of the word 'fear' has no abiding place in the management of the concern. It will reach out and take a 'poke' at a man irrespective of his position, race, color or previous condition of servitude, and will never apologize for doing so." This last sentence about taking a 'poke' at a man may have been used on occasion, but in the main, far more good was spoken than bad of Williamsburg's leading citizens described in the "thumb-nail" biographies included in it. The editor, J. P. Gallagher, literally went around the square and described each business enterprise and its owner, and all the other key figures of the town such as clergymen, teachers, civic officers, etc. And he didn't overlook the ladies either. They ranged from village belles to elderly pioneers.

There are pictures of store fronts and store interiors, churches and schools. There are pictures of fine residences, a few of them still doing service. Walter and Lettie Harrington are shown in their Oldsmobile. W. R. Long's prize winning Light Brahma chickens are there as are Ellis Lloyd's trotting horse, Billy Pickering, and other

horses at his livery barn. There is a page of baby pictures, including those of some people now numbered among our solid citizens.

The advertising in the May Flower Edition is interesting, as it reflects the wants of the people as well as the desire of the advertiser to sell his product. Nicola and Foster advertised men's suits ranging in price from \$10 to \$20. F. W. Tomasek sold harnesses for \$18 to \$35. Louis Shames' Boston Department Store sold certain ginghams at  $8\frac{1}{2}\phi$  per yard. The Williamsburg Nursery carried a full page ad. Breeding stock of purebred cattle was a feature of several ads, including Owens Bros. of Homestead and P. J. Donohoe of Holbrook. In the smaller want ads we have those for hatching eggs, to be set under hens, of course. Walter Smith offered violin lessons. J. T. Talbot sold stove wood.

Some of the local items give an insight into the "flowery" language used by editors of that day, and more in particular, J. P. Gallagher who had both a classic vocabulary and a rare sense of humor as well. We quote: "Mr. \_\_\_\_ and Miss \_\_\_\_ were united in the holy bonds of wedlock at Holbrook Tuesday by Rev. Father King. These popular and well-to-do young folks have a legion of warm friends in this part of the county who join with us in wishing them a long and prosperous voyage on life's connubial bark. The groom has purchased a farm and prepared a cozy home three miles west of town whither they will remove and enjoy life under their own vine and fig tree."

"Mr. Carl Holden is the proud possessor of a new rubber tired buggy; and since the purchase of this vehicle his mother had to invest in a new dinner bell in order to get Carl in off the road occasionally."

"Fred Kleinmeyer, one of the good Germans out on Rural 1 came in today and bargained for a year's reading of the J.-T. May the frost never touch his garden and may his shadow never grow less."

Mr. Gallagher was always a strong booster for the home town. Here is what he says about it. "Like a jeweled ring, sparkling on the finger of a bride, is the town of Williamsburg to Iowa County." . . . "Williamsburg stands as the queenliest little city in Iowa County, with a future before her fair and promising as the picture that Fancy paints above the maiden's pillow that lightly rests against her wedding morn."

Yes, an interesting bit of journalistic work, the May Flower Edition. Many of the old timers saved their copies. If you ever are so fortunate as to see one of them, read it through to find out how Williamsburg citizens got along fifty-four years ago.

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#### THE PIONEERS

All gone! the brave old pioneers,
Their like we'll see no more,
And only through the mist of years,
The trials they bravely bore
When severing home and kindred ties,
And friends they deemed the best,
They turned their steps toward the skies
That fringed the boundless West.

All gone! that strong and hardy race That reared their cabins where Now fronts the modern dwelling place On street or thoroughfare; Their labor's done, their battle's won, They sleep in hallowed ground, Nor reck they now which season's sun Wheels o'er their rest profound.

All gone! that sturdy race and brave, Whose axes once did ring Through the primeval firest's nave, Or by the hillside spring.

No more their old log cabins send Aloft their curling smoke,

No more their faithful oxen bend Beneath their ancient yoke.

No more at morn in grassy glade
The gleaming scythe is swung,
The rust of time is on its blade
Now in the attic hung;
No more, along the prairie trail,
Slow creeps the covered wain,
Where now, on lines of glist'ning rail
Is hurled the rushing train.

Full many a sturdy pioneer
Came to this wondrous West
The dews of many a vanished year
Lie thickly where they rest.
Their sons are grown to manhood now,
And children 'round them play.
Whose grandsires once with axe and plow
Did blaze the empire's way.

Remember each old pioneer;
With rev'rence speak his name;
His courage blossoms in the cheer
That is, today, our fame.
He fought the fight, - then laid him down
To his eternal rest;
A nation is his victor's crown
His shrine—the fruitful West

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### SUCCESS OF THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

#### Due To Community Club and Business and Professional Interests

These concerns and individuals were the ones solicited for financial support of the Centennial enterprise: (again our apologies for possible omissions)

Stake Hotel Journal-Tribune Holz Cleaners Livingston Shoe Repair Yoder Motor Co. McSwiggin and Uhlmann Alfred McSwiggin Donohoe Insurance Security Savings Bank Bob's Stop Inn Joe's Tavern Burg Tavern Hanson Barber Shop O'Neill Oil Co. Home Oil Co. Smith Motor Co. Harrington Garage Englebert Pontiac Little Chicago Cafe G'Donnell Hardware Starks and Vanderlinden Buser Beauty Shop Bullers Studio South Side Cafe Fair Store Iowa County Farm Supply Bob. Rehmke Deane Cranston Roehrkasse Locker Vinton Produce Dr. K. E. Dougherty Coast to Coast Store Eurg Bowl Williamsburg Body Shop Dr. D. T. White Williamsburg Feed Service Dr. J. E. Riggenbach Ray Martinson Irvin Maas Town & Country Beauty Salon Norma Lenoch Paula Maas Roland Holden Floyd Welsh Miller Hospital Peterson Drug M. F. Bricker Farmers Trust & Savings Bank Claypool & Claypool Rourke Barber Shop Vernon Wyman Merwyn Jones, Well drilling Gittins, Well Drilling Newman Shannahan Kempf & Riggenbach Ben Franklin Store

Jones Furniture Oakes TV Fetzer's Standard Station Truman Jones Ralph Mumm Rusbult Appliance Pelling Oil Service Arnold Dubishar Langley Jewelry Papritz' Maytag Sales Iowa Electric Light & Power Central Iowa Telephone Co. Melvin Witte Star Drug Dr. I. J. Sinn Dr. M. A. Lewis Lillis Insurance E. J. Von Hoene Starlite Beauty Shop Central Food Market (Me Too) Shellady's Market Glandorf & Mayberry Family Shoe Store Lewis and Sears Lillis Variety Store Witte's Sinclair Station Iowa County Farm Service Oscar Glandorf Harry Rathjen Peterson & Frick Williamsburg Lumber Store Melvin Iburg Winborns York Creamery Shipping Association Kent Feeds Evans & Imhoff Joe Evans Sauter Implement Williamsburg Creamery Anton Heitshusen Harold Jones Sterling's Feed & Seed Carl Werner, Welding Harry D. Jones Burg Implement Clover Farm Store Fant Garage Beilstein Feed Service Ralph Matheson Bob Hanson Gaston Phillips Dwight Gahring Ora Enfield Ficken's TV

Sam Belfand, Plumbing

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